

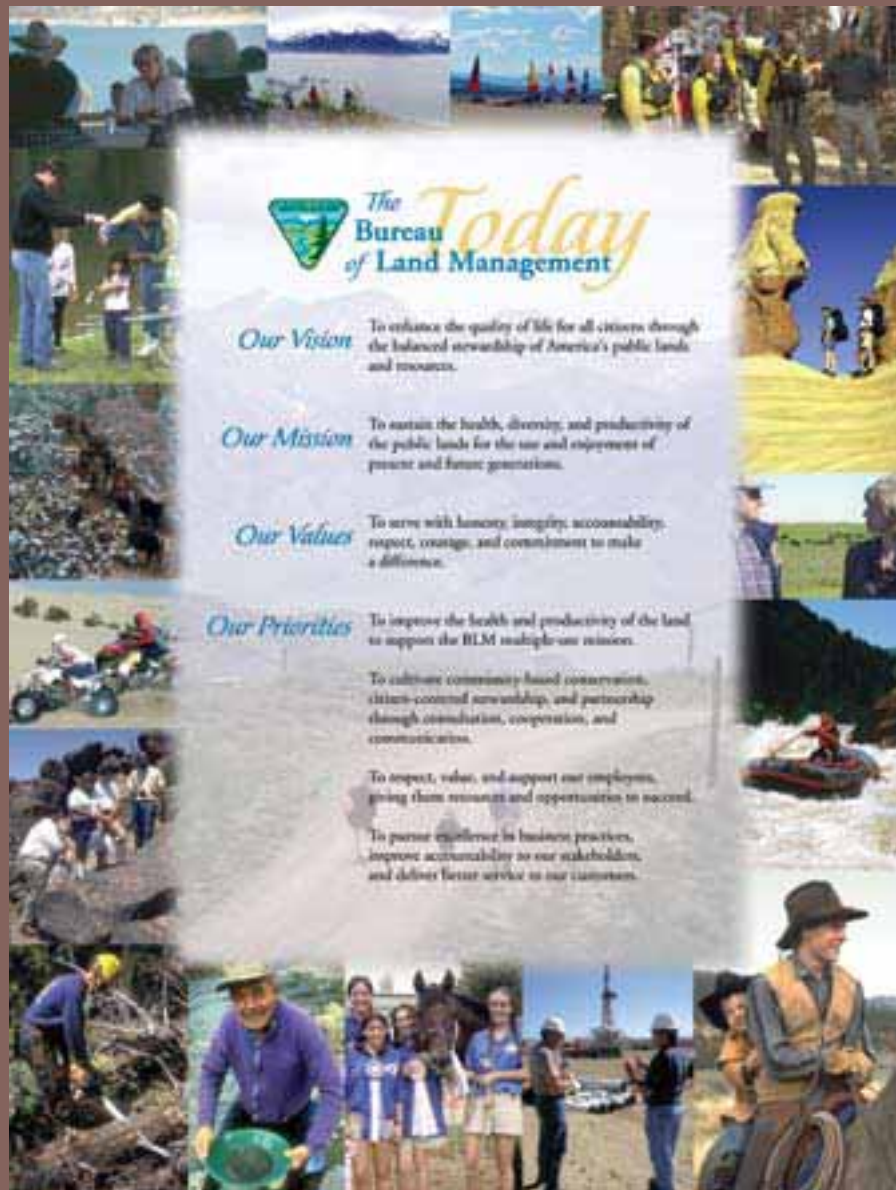
Law Enforcement

YEAR-END REVIEW

2007



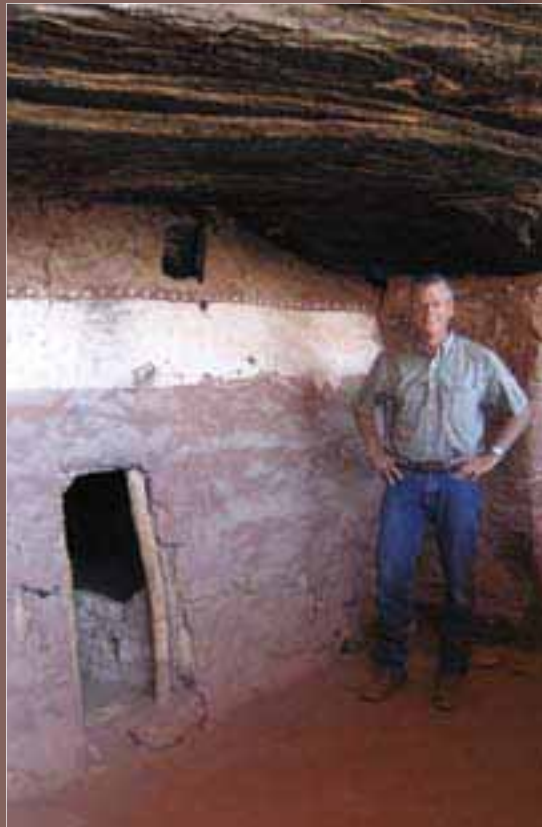
THEN & NOW



For more information, contact the Office of Law Enforcement and Security. BLM-WO-GI-08-004-1800

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WILLIAM WOODY, DIRECTOR OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY



In 2007, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Rangers and Agents continued to serve their mission of protecting the public lands, the resources found on these lands, and the visitors who enjoy the various and unique recreational opportunities available on the public lands. There are 180 uniformed BLM Rangers and 96 BLM Agents stationed in the western United States.

Their case loads, visitor contacts, law enforcement partnerships, and work with local communities were all commendable efforts that collectively served our mission this year.

The daily workloads of Rangers and Agents may include investigating complaints involving the destruction and theft of cultural and paleontological resources; marijuana cultivation; OHV issues; oil and gas issues, including spills or theft; effects of illegal immigration and smuggling on public lands; illegal dumping; wildland fires; wild horse and burro killings and theft; livestock trespass; forest, cactus,

and rock thefts; and guiding, outfitting, and subsistence hunting issues.

Rangers and Agents work closely with BLM resource managers, with duties that include managing 16,000 miles of multiple-use trails, 13 National and Historic trails (covering 5,500 miles), 38 Wild and Scenic Rivers, 69 million acres of forests and

woodlands, 790 Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas covering 21 million acres, 271,000 archaeological and historical sites, 333,000 mining claims, 70,000 producing oil and gas wells, and 37,000 wild horses and burros, and monitoring 93,000 rights-of-way.

Another ever-growing challenge to managing the public lands can be seen in recently conducted surveys showing there are now roughly 60 million people who enjoyed recreational opportunities on the 258 million acres of land managed by the BLM. And today, there are 4,136 communities with a population of just over 23 million people who live within 30 minutes of BLM-managed lands.

The Rangers and Agents of the Bureau of Land Management are proud to represent the law enforcement community and serve the American people, and we thank you for your support.

William C. Woody, Director
BLM Office of Law Enforcement and Security

KEITH L. ALLER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

This past year provided another year of opportunities and challenges for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES). The OLES formed a Marijuana Investigative Support Team (MIST) to help combat the spread of Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) marijuana cultivation. MIST members were selected from our Special Agent ranks and charged with supporting marijuana investigations mainly in California, Oregon, and Washington. The MIST went through a rigorous training cycle and deployments including several multiagency operations in California. Violence increased this past year in association with marijuana growers. Several incidents involving threats to public land users and armed confrontations with law enforcement highlighted the serious nature of this issue on public lands. The members of the MIST made many personal sacrifices to support the mission and I thank them and recognize their sense of public service.

Our Special Agents have been fully engaged in all aspects of our other resource protection mandates, as well as the marijuana cultivation issue. Special Agents in the BLM have opened several new, extremely complex cases involving everything from wild horse and burro issues to paleontological and archaeological vandalism and thefts. I hope we can report several significant

successful prosecutions in these areas next year. As for cases opened in previous years, Special Agents participated in major cases with our Federal partners in the investigation of domestic terrorism organizations that led to significant convictions and sentences in Federal courts in Oregon. BLM Special Agent investigations led to convictions of 20 years for marijuana cultivators in Federal court in California. These are not all-inclusive of our efforts, but highlight the great work our agents do in the field every day.

Agents also answered the call to work details in various parts of the BLM to supplement uniformed Ranger activities, in addition to their investigative workloads.

As managers and leaders of the law enforcement program, we are faced with issues that require us to take a long-term strategic look at what is best for our law enforcement program. Like most Federal agencies, the BLM is faced with large numbers of senior-level employees who will be eligible to retire within the next 3 to 5 years. The BLM law enforcement program is also facing this challenge, and we have identified a process whereby emerging leaders can be identified and trained. This process includes job shadowing and leadership skills development rather than solely supervisory training. An additional facet



to this issue is the recruitment, training, and retention of a vigorous and diverse workforce that will be ready to step into higher levels of responsibility as leadership positions are filled. The BLM law enforcement organization needs to take advantage of several options in hiring authorities to accomplish this goal. We plan to be aggressive in recruitment and retention options.

This is a snapshot of our challenges from an operational and management perspective. We are confident that we will meet these challenges, as we always have.

In closing, I express my true appreciation for the work that our Rangers and Special Agents do every day under trying circumstances. Good job, Everyone!

JON WESLEY SERING, CHIEF RANGER



In April 2007, I was selected as Chief Ranger for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) after 30 years as a permanent BLM employee. I began working as an Outdoor Recreation Planner in the Riverside District in 1977–78, after earning a Master of Science degree in Geography, Wildland Recreation, and Wilderness Management from the University of Idaho. From there I moved to Montrose, Colorado, as a Wilderness Coordinator until 1989, when I switched careers to become the first BLM District Ranger in Montrose (only the second Ranger in Colorado at the time). I accepted the State Staff Ranger position in Boise, Idaho, after serving as a Ranger for 17 years in Montrose; Wenatchee, Washington; Taos, New Mexico; and Moab, Utah. Starting as a seasonal Wilderness Ranger for the Forest Service in the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains, I have experienced a love of the outdoors throughout my career. Working as a BLM Ranger has always given me a chance to

enjoy the environment around me. I've enjoyed meeting and educating people who come to BLM lands to recreate—patrolling the San Juan Islands with sea lions and orcas in Washington State, experiencing the diversity and challenges of the tri-cultures in Taos, or patrolling in a Jeep Rubicon in Moab.

I accepted the National Chief Ranger position because I believe strongly in BLM Law Enforcement Rangers and their commitment to natural resource protection, and I wanted to give back to the Ranger program. The BLM Ranger program has the best land management Law Enforcement Officers of any agency I have ever observed. This high quality is due to the type of people who are hired, the training they receive, and the commitment they have to their jobs and to the land. I want to be a voice for the BLM Ranger program, give positive guidance, act as a mentor, and earn the respect of the Rangers.

The BLM has a relatively small force of Rangers, with slightly more than 180 Rangers nationwide in the field, patrolling more than 258 million acres of public lands. Rangers deal with a variety of issues, ranging from violations caused by off-highway vehicle use, investigations of wildland fires, eradication of marijuana and drug smuggling, vandalism and removal of natural resources, theft of archaeological and paleontological artifacts, enforcement of recreation permits, and protection of developed recreation sites.

The year has been a successful one for the Ranger program in many ways. We developed a new recruitment program, including a BLM Ranger brochure and an upcoming video. We are also planning outreach with colleges and universities and will attend future job fairs. There is an excellent cadre of Field Training Officers working with new BLM Rangers, both from other agencies and graduating from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Our K-9 Teams are outstanding and are sought for national, State, and local work details, as well as other special activities outside their home States. For the first time, the BLM has a full complement of eleven State Staff Rangers.

Through training, opportunities to work details in other locations, and working with varying and often complex resource issues with a variety of resource specialists, the BLM Rangers are a breed unto themselves.

LAUREL PISTEL, SPECIAL AGENT OF THE YEAR

Special Agent Laurel Pistel has worked out of the Arcata Field Office in Humboldt County, California, since joining the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in 1993. Agent Pistel's tenacity and relentless pursuit of suspects is second to none. She works tirelessly throughout the year, often longer than 16-hour days, quietly going about her business. At the end of any investigation, several search warrants are served and assets seized. Other agents often comment that her energy is hard to keep up with, and Pistel is regarded with the utmost respect by her peers.

Humboldt County has long been notorious for illicit marijuana production. In the last 5 years, Agent Pistel has been inundated with Mexican National Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) in her area of responsibility, which encompasses portions of two Field Offices. The number of DTO-related cultivation sites has steadily increased and the number of plants eradicated has risen accordingly, with more than 158,000 plants eradicated in

2007, in addition to 885 pounds of processed marijuana having an estimated street value exceeding \$794 million.

Special Agent Pistel began the year following several leads from 2006, using a variety of technical investigative techniques. She coordinated valuable assistance from other Special Agents and BLM Rangers to help her in her investigations. Later in the year, she conducted ground reconnaissance to locate the cultivation sites and coordinated their eradication through California's Campaign Against Marijuana Planting. Two suspects have been arrested and another twenty suspects have been identified throughout northern and central California; search warrants are expected to be served before the end of the calendar year.

In addition to her extreme investigative workload, Agent Pistel willingly took on the responsibility of mentoring two newly hired Special Agents. There presently is no field training program for newly hired Special



Agents, and it is critical that they learn day-to-day investigative skills and protocols from a journeyman-level BLM Special Agent. Special Agent Pistel has played an invaluable role in orienting these new agents and helping them develop the skills that will benefit them, as well as the BLM, for years to come. In both instances, Pistel provided the guidance, knowledge, and experience that helped the Agents to be successful in their work.

GEORGE ORR, RANGER OF THE YEAR



Ranger of the Year George Orr, from Burns, Oregon, is an outstanding Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) with a sincere dedication to serving the Burns District employees, the general public, and the people of Harney County. The Burns District is composed of 2.5 million acres of public lands covering a geographic area of 10,000 square miles, and is home to the largest National Landscape Conservation System unit in Oregon—the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA), designated by Congress in October 2000.

The Burns District has had the worst 2 years of wildfires in its history. In 2006, a total of 153,000 acres were burned; in 2007, a total of 203,000 acres were consumed by wildfires. During both years of extreme wildfires, Ranger Orr was especially diligent and placed himself in harm's way, along with Harney County Sheriff's Deputies, in countless emergency evacuations of homes because of extreme and erratic wildfire behavior, which threatened life and property. U.S. Hwy 20/395—a major artery through southeastern Oregon—was closed a record number of times this past

summer because of wildfire encroachment. In one incident, Ranger Orr had set up a roadblock to stop a wanted individual. That person ran the roadblock, clipping Orr's vehicle, which led to a high-speed chase and apprehension of the suspect.

Ranger Orr has taken the time to foster good relations between District employees and their specific programs of responsibility. He has taken an interest in the management and protection of resource values, especially within the Steens Mountain CMPA, which has high national visibility. The CMPA includes the largest Wilderness Area in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Oregon, and Orr has been very active and responsive in managing the OHV use along the wilderness boundary. He has been willing to help with

the management of Special Recreation Permits and track organizations without valid permits from the BLM.

Ranger Orr has established outstanding relations with local law enforcement agencies. His interaction with the U.S. Forest Service, the Harney County Sheriff's Department, Oregon State Police, the Burns Paiute Tribal Officers, and the local Burns and Hines Police Departments reflect the mutual respect and good working relations that are essential in the protection of public lands and resources, along with the promotion of public health and safety. These agencies have collaborated on many drug raids of growing operations on public lands. They captured and arrested illegal immigrants who were growing marijuana worth millions of dollars in street

value. Ranger Orr has been called on by many agencies and jurisdictions for work details that cross organizational lines. He spent several weeks in Fiscal Year 2007 working with U.S. Border Patrol Agents on the southern border.

These are some examples of how Ranger Orr demonstrates courage, dedication, and honor. He has enduring stamina and the ability to go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure employee, as well as public, health and safety. He has spent long hours away from his home and family in the line of duty. He is the only BLM LEO within Harney County, Oregon, with a range of more than 10,000 square miles. Ranger Orr performs his job to the best of his ability and with the resources he is given, always with an emphasis on completing his mission safely.

PERRY MCCOY, RANGER SECRETARY'S VALOR AWARD RECIPIENT

Former Grand Junction, Colorado, Ranger Dan "Perry" McCoy was given the Secretary's Valor Award in May 2007. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ranger McCoy demonstrated unusual courage involving a high degree of personal risk in the face of danger for diffusing a hostage situation during a dangerous investigation involving drugs on public lands.

"BLM Rangers are asked to cover thousands of acres of public lands on their own, putting their lives on the line for public lands and those who use them," says BLM Law Enforcement Director William Woody. "Many patrol alone and are special, resourceful

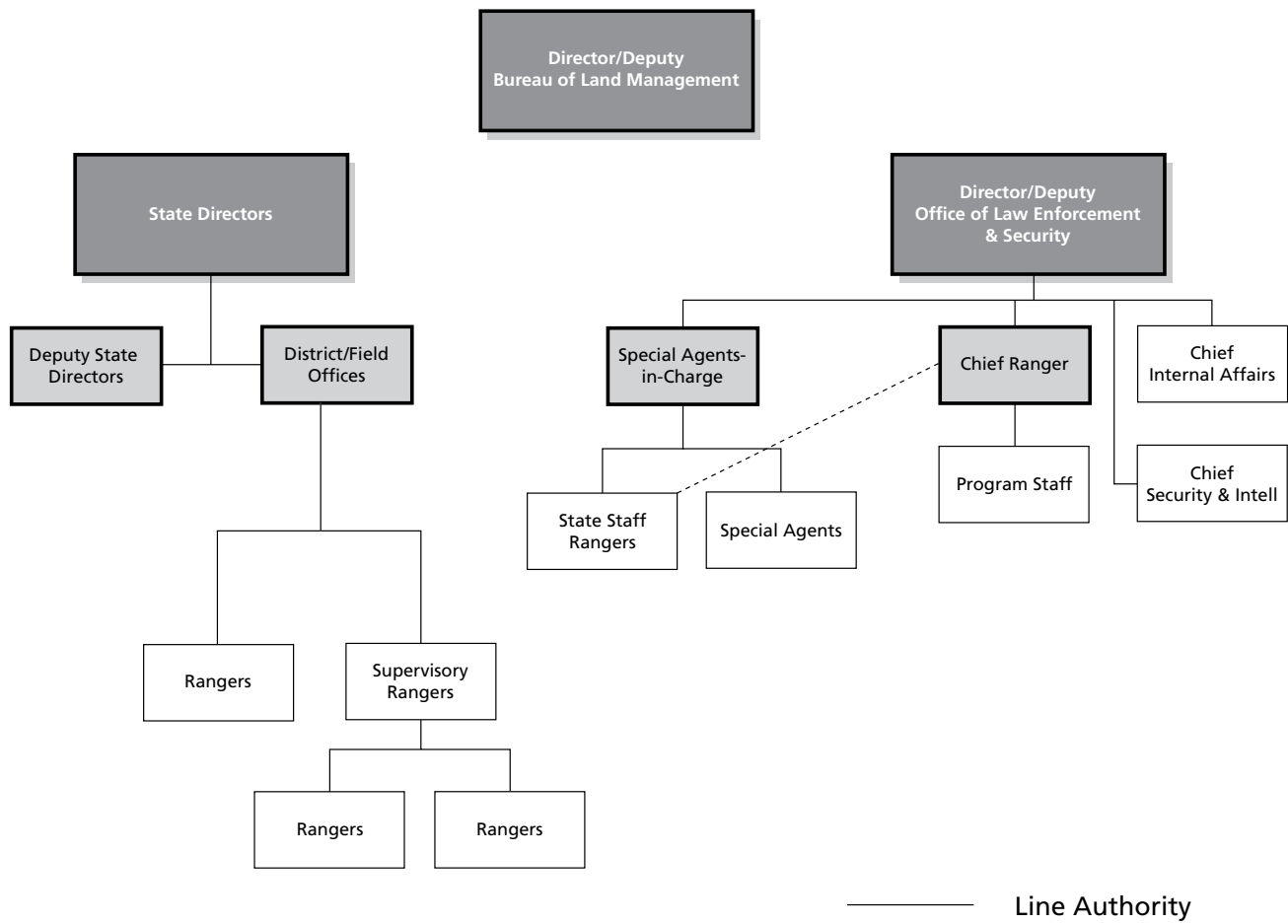
individuals who are dedicated to their jurisdictions, their families, and their peers."

"BLM Rangers—and Perry McCoy is one of the best and most dedicated—are right there, working closely with local, State, and other Federal agency law enforcement personnel, search and rescue, and wildland firefighters," continued Woody. "McCoy earned his colleagues' respect and trust, and for that there can be no greater reward."

Ranger McCoy was named the 2006 BLM Ranger of the Year. He now works for the BLM in Wyoming.



Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Organization



Total Special Agents = 96
Total Rangers = 180



12/2006

Highlights of Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Activities for Fiscal Year 2007

In Fiscal Year 2007, 17,255 BLM law enforcement incidents were reported:
10,669 of those resulted in enforcement action.^a

Incidents	Number (except as noted)
Thefts	362
Theft Enforcement Actions	201
ARPA ^b or Paleontological	58
Minerals	21
Timber	103
All Other Natural Resources	55
Vandalism	590
Vandalism Enforcement Actions	208
ARPA ^b or Paleontological	63
All Other Natural Resources	356
Fire Incidents (Non-Arson)	710
Fire Incident Actions (Non-Arson)	597
Fire Incidents (Arson)	64
Fire Enforcement Actions	21
Off-Highway Vehicles	3,457
Off-Highway Vehicles Enforcement Actions	3,139
DUI^c	158
Search and Rescue	231
Drug	1,029
Drug Enforcement Actions	921
Marijuana Sale and Manufacture	126
Marijuana Possession	710
Marijuana Seizures:	
Processed (in pounds)	12,990 lbs
Plants	444,315
Wild Horse and Burro	88
Hazardous Materials	83
Hazardous Materials Enforcement Actions	28
Occupancy Trespass	174
Occupancy Trespass Enforcement Actions	137
Assaults	
Law Enforcement Officers	3
Government Employees Non-Law Enforcement	13
Public	14

^aEnforcement Actions = Written Warning, Citation, Criminal Complaint, Arrest, Grand Jury Indictment, Administrative or Civil Remedy

^bArchaeological Resources Protection Act

^cDriving Under the Influence

ALASKA

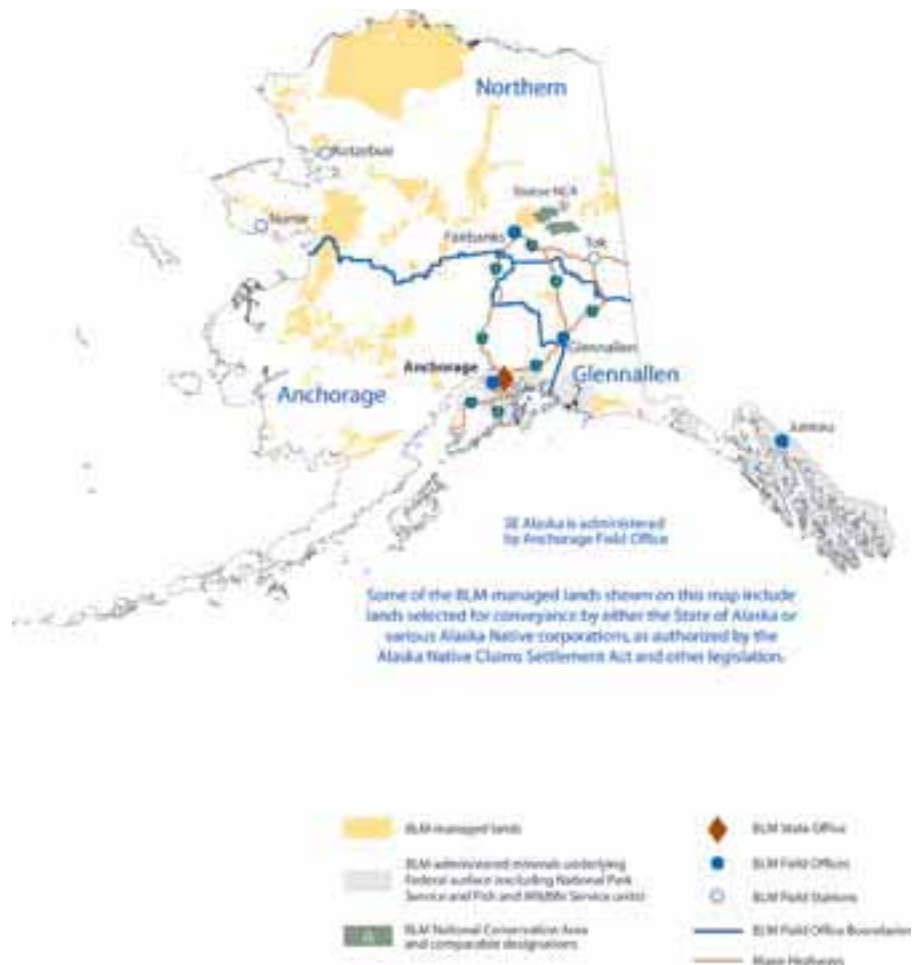
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ALASKA BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



Alaska! The word itself conjures images of magnificent mountains, vast areas of remote wilderness, glaciers, rivers, lakes, extreme weather conditions, abundant fish and wildlife, rich natural resources, and outdoor opportunities. With 83.5 million surface acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land, the BLM Alaska law enforcement staff is faced with many unique challenges and issues. The staff, responsible for the enforcement of Federal laws in this vast State, consists of five field Law Enforcement Rangers, one Special Agent, a State Staff Ranger, and the Special Agent-in-Charge. Special Agent Joe Nardinger is a welcome addition to the Alaska law enforcement staff, and is presently attending the Criminal Investigator Training program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. State Staff Ranger Kevin Andrews came to Alaska in March 2007 and is responsible for oversight of the statewide Ranger program.

The Anchorage Field Office (AFO) manages more than 19 million acres of public land across more than 100,000 square miles, from the rainforests of the southeastern region to the arctic tundra of its western coast, as far as 600 miles from Anchorage. Ranger Jeff Duhrsen, the AFO's sole Ranger-pilot, conducted multiple patrols using a single-engine Cessna 206, which resulted in the discovery of 16 unauthorized occupancies, from trespass cabins to illegal grazing. The airplane facilitated long-distance compliance checks on numerous special-recreation permittees, guide-outfitters, and commercial filmmakers in remote areas such as the Unalakleet Wild and Scenic River and the Iditarod National Historic Trail. Ranger Duhrsen also issued more than sixty dog off-leash citations, investigated more than a dozen incidents of theft and vandalism, and responded to multiple brown bear and black bear complaints at the 730-acre Campbell Tract site in Anchorage.

Rangers Brad Honerlaw and Alysia Hancock, assigned to the Glenallen Field Office, are responsible for enforcing laws on 7.4 million acres of BLM-administered

public land. The Rangers work closely with the Alaska State Troopers and are often involved in search and rescue missions, serving search and arrest warrants, and providing backup. Rangers Honerlaw and Hancock also enforce regulations pertaining to one of the largest subsistence hunts in Alaska for moose and caribou. Subsistence hunting is unique to Alaska and is restricted to rural residents.

Rangers Honerlaw and Hancock were reminded of the 1942 Japanese occupation of the Aleutian islands of Kiska and Attu this year when trail crew members working on a portion of the Swede Lake designated trail unearthed a live antitank mine. Rangers Honerlaw and Hancock secured the Swede Lake trailhead until the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team arrived from Fort Richardson and implemented an emergency closure of the area. The team found and disposed of two additional devices (one live and one trainer) and parts and pieces of two other devices.

Ranger Mimi Thomas is assigned to the Central Yukon Field Office (CYFO), one of three field offices within the Fairbanks District Office, and is responsible for enforcing Federal laws on 26 million acres of BLM-managed lands. Ranger Thomas regularly patrols on the Dalton Highway north to Prudhoe Bay, where she deals with issues such as hunting, guiding, fishing, off-road vehicle use, mining, realty trespass, and subsistence. Normal patrols may last 3 or 4 days, depending on weather conditions.

Ranger Ed Lee is assigned to the Eastern Interior Field Office, also located in Fairbanks. Ranger Lee conducts regular patrols in northeastern Alaska and deals with many issues, including mining compliance, OHV use and restricted areas, subsistence and sport hunting efforts, and trespass issues. Although the Arctic Field Office does not presently have a Ranger, Rangers Thomas and Lee provide coverage as needed and are responsible for law enforcement for approximately 57 million acres of BLM-administered public land in northern Alaska.



ARIZONA

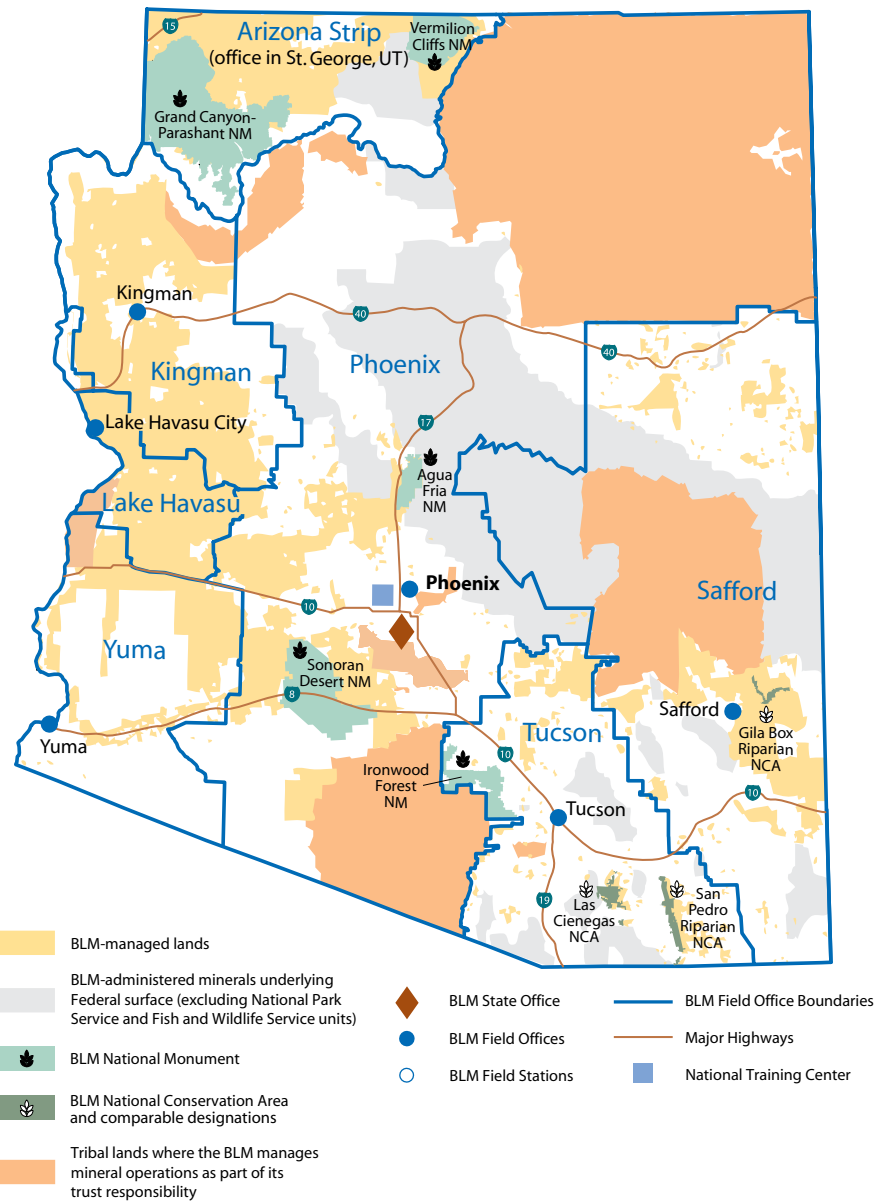
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ARIZONA BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 was a challenging year for the Arizona law enforcement program. It could be defined by border-related issues, rapid increases in population, and personnel vacancies. The effects of activities along the international border with Mexico continue to demand attention from both our Rangers and Special Agents. Both human and drug smuggling continue to negatively affect visitor and employee safety and degrade the natural resources, especially the Sonoran Desert and Ironwood Forest National Monuments.

Arizona is experiencing some of the fastest population growth in the United States. This growth places increasing demands on the Arizona Rangers in calls for service. At the end of FY 2006 and into FY 2007, the Arizona law enforcement program lost eight Ranger and Agent positions to promotions and retirements, adding to the workload of our incumbent workforce.

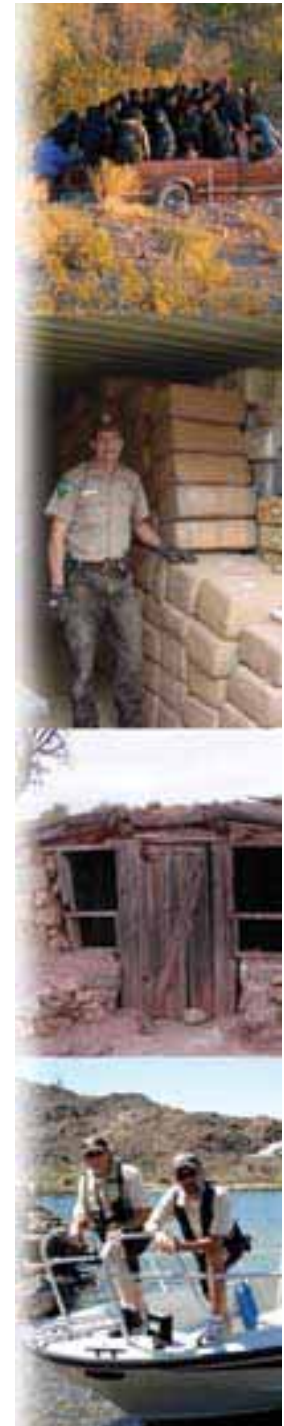
The Arizona Strip District is affected by the rapidly increasing population of the greater St. George, Utah, area. Rangers are handling more investigations related to the dumping of household trash and OHV issues, as well as continuing to protect the many historical and prehistoric sites within the district. Having a close working relationship with the Arizona Game and Fish Department has helped during the many popular trophy big game hunts on the Arizona Strip.

Colorado River District (CRD) Rangers continue to deal with water-based recreational demands along the River, especially through the use of State Authority granted by the Mohave and Yuma County Sheriffs. The Quartzite long-term visitor area attracts large numbers of recreational campers in winter and our Rangers work closely with the Quartzite Police Department (PD) to deal with law enforcement incidents in this area. The Quartzite POW-WOW rock and gem show, estimated to bring more than 1 million visitors over a 2-week period, showed an increase in related crimes. CRD Rangers were assisted by three Rangers from California during this event and made eight felony arrests for drug- and weapons-related offenses. Field Staff Ranger Keith Dorsey and Special Agents Carmen Petrillo and Rob Vaitkus investigated the theft of a large petroglyph from public lands near Yuma, successfully recovering the petroglyph and pursuing charges against the suspect.

The Gila District continues to be heavily involved with issues related to the international border with the Republic of Mexico. Violence committed by human and drug smuggling organizations remains a concern for employee and visitor safety. There was a triple homicide at the Ironwood Forest National Monument in February related to human smuggling; Gila District Rangers were first on the scene and assisted Border Patrol and the Pima County Sheriff with the investigation. The Safford Field Office is experiencing an increase in recreation, especially OHV-related activities such as the permitted Poker Run at the Hot Well Dunes OHV area. This event grows each year, with more than 3,200 visitors and participants at this year's event, and 40 citations, 5 medical assists, and 3 DUI arrests.

Phoenix District lands are increasingly viewed as the open space for Maricopa County, one of the fastest growing Counties in the United States. With that growth comes the challenge of protecting public resources and ensuring the safety of visitors. Special Agent Robert Babb obtained an arrest warrant for a caretaker at a mine near the Hassayampa Field Office who had fired on BLM contract employees working in the area; this case is ongoing. Rangers deal with increased conflicts between user groups, including recreational shooters, horseback riders, and hikers. They are also working to reduce the conflict between long-time rural residents and increasing OHV use from new residents in the area. Cooperation continues with the Border Patrol and other agencies on border-related smuggling activities and their related effects on District lands. District Ranger Patrick Brasington seized 4,661.5 pounds of marijuana being smuggled across public lands in the Lower Sonoran Field Office in February.

Special Agent Bob Ruis is now assigned to the Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area in Tucson to facilitate better intelligence sharing and cooperation with drug smuggling investigations on public lands. Our agents are also working to improve cooperation with other agencies through the sharing of intelligence regarding all aspects of smuggling on public lands, including the use of stolen vehicles in smuggling activities that degrade public lands.



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CALIFORNIA BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



California's law enforcement program evolved at several levels this year, beginning the year with six of nine Agent positions in place. The three vacancies have now been filled. New to California's Agent core is Kynan Barrios, former Arcata Chief Ranger, now filling our second Agent position at the Arcata Field Office. Our second addition was Patrick Chassie, also from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ranger ranks from the Barstow Field Office, now serving the BLM as a Special Agent assigned to the California Desert District Office (Moreno Valley). Finally, our new Special Agent in the Ukiah Field Office is Matt Knudson, formerly with the U.S. Forest Service.

Each of these individuals was hired during what may be considered one of the most intense marijuana investigation seasons to date. Throughout the State, all nine field agents assigned to California have been heavily involved in the investigation of illicit, resource damaging, marijuana cultivation on BLM-administered lands and adjacent lands. The recognition of the intensity of this problem resulted in three new actions by law enforcement personnel:

- The BLM's Office of Law Enforcement and Security, in consultation with each of the Special Agents-in-Charge, established a core team of investigators, referred to as the Marijuana Investigative Support Team, to assist with the investigation of marijuana cultivation on lands administered by the BLM. Investigations resulted in the acquisition of significant evidence that furthered cases involving targeted Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs), which seem to be tied to Mexican Nationals.
- The Shasta County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the California National Guard, National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting, and the BLM sought to clear Shasta County of marijuana for this growing season. Operation Alesia resulted in the removal of nearly 300,000 plants from BLM, USFS, NPS, and State lands in July within the County.
- The Drug Enforcement Administration agreed to assist with eradication in California and indicated it would take a more active roll in marijuana investigations, with the goal of resolving conflicts

and maximizing available resources to track DTOs wherever they are found.

California BLM Agents and Rangers conducted 59 raids in 18 Counties in Fiscal Year 2007, seizing more than 423,928 marijuana plants and nearly 2,181 pounds of processed marijuana.

The California Desert District (CDD), composed of 10.4 million acres in southern California, contains one of our largest law enforcement challenges in the State. Each Ranger patrols an average of 460 square miles. With extreme desert temperatures, high population density, and vast recreational areas that are widely used by the visiting public, CDD Rangers are challenged every day.

The BLM's law enforcement program within California continues to take steps toward greater success. In 2007, working in conjunction with the State Director's Office, the Assistant Deputy Director for the Office of Law Enforcement and Security, the California Human Resources Staff, and BLM managers within the CDD, a comprehensive strategy to recruit and retain Rangers was initiated and is presently being used to fill critical vacancies within the CDD. Additionally, key relations with California Sheriffs and other Federal and State law enforcement programs continue to be fostered and supported through ongoing dialogue with the Special Agent-in-Charge, as evidenced by the renewal of Memorandums of Understanding and the development of new ones. Another projected success is California Senate Bill 742, reaffirming California's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division, which was scheduled to terminate in January 2008 but is now awaiting the Governor's signature.

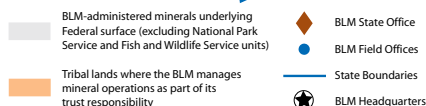
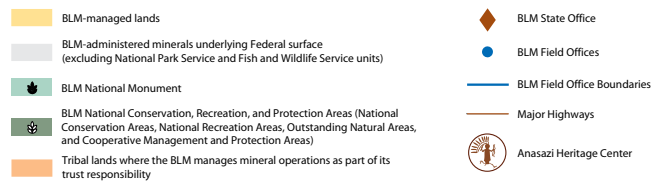
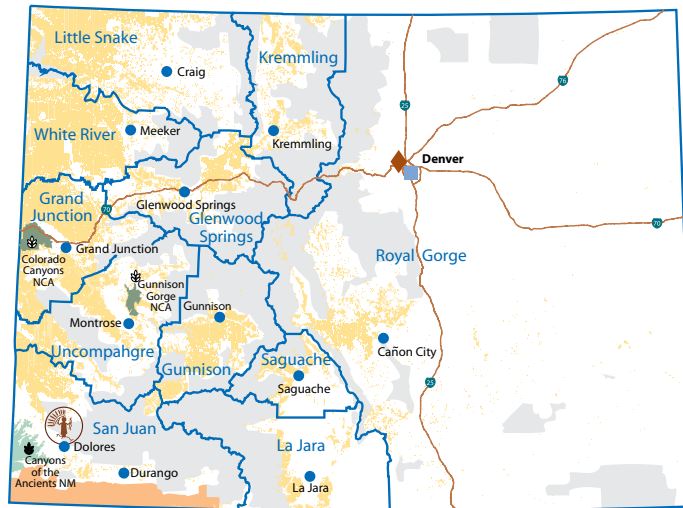
BLM California law enforcement personnel will persist in following up on case leads from partner agencies and will investigate incursions into closed areas, violations of the Wild Horse and Burro Act, and dumping on public lands. We will continue to progress through collaboration, coordination, and cross-support of other program disciplines, both within and outside of the BLM.



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COLORADO—EASTERN STATES

BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



In 2007, the Colorado—Eastern States law enforcement program provided investigative and patrol support to approximately 8.3 million surface acres and 66.7 million subsurface acres of public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) within Colorado and the 31 States that make up the Eastern States Region. Within Colorado, Law Enforcement Rangers patrol about 700,000 acres of public land per officer. Special Agents located in Lakewood, Grand Junction, and Durango, Colorado, as well as Jackson, Mississippi, provide investigative assistance to the Bureau and to the Colorado Rangers.

Public interest in outdoor activities has increased, including off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. In most areas, OHV use is restricted to existing roads and trails, and is limited during inclement weather. However, a few areas do not have such restrictions and operating an OHV in a manner likely to cause resource damage is still of concern. Colorado is also experiencing an emergence of legal issues associated with mountain biking activities. In particular, Fruita, Colorado, is becoming one of the premiere mountain biking locations in the Nation. In 2007, five companies were investigated for operating mountain bike tours or races on public land without a permit. Many of these tours crossed the State line into Utah and involved multiple BLM field offices. In one case, unauthorized and “underground” mountain bike endurance races also became an issue. Organized over the Internet through Web logs and miscellaneous postings, one such race involved approximately 160 individuals who met at the Kokopelli Trailhead near Fruita, Colorado, to ride 142 miles unassisted. Because of the large number of “organized” riders, this activity poses a threat to resources, as well as the public.

Annually, Colorado and the Eastern States administer several wild horse and burro adoptions. Approximately 1,650 wild horses and burros were adopted in 2007. The majority of wild horse and burro violations—for neglect or inhumane treatment of wild horses—encountered by law enforcement personnel were handled through criminal processes, with investigations of individuals in Louisiana, Arkansas, Florida, and Alabama. These investigations generally led to

prosecution, with defendants paying restitution or sentenced to perform community service. There were also nine individuals who wrote invalid checks to adopt wild horses this past year.

With increased energy exploration in Colorado, there have been more investigations associated with the dumping of hazardous materials on public lands and illegal use and manufacture of drugs. Methamphetamine is being manufactured and used by employees of the energy exploration companies, who are using “meth” to attempt to “function” during their long work hours. Energy-affected Counties have also requested law enforcement support from the BLM.

Colorado has also validated the connection between methamphetamine use and illegal collection and sales of cultural and historical resources in southwestern Colorado. Law Enforcement Special Agents teamed with State and Federal agencies this year to jointly target suspects with known ties to illegal narcotics and illegal collection and sales.

BLM law enforcement personnel have spent a great deal of time investigating human-caused fires. The agency has been tasked with Fire Suppression Cost Recovery, as well as rehabilitation-related expenses, when intent or negligence can be defined through cause and origin determinations.

BLM Special Agents are often contacted to assist other law enforcement agencies with investigative matters that have a public land nexus. In one instance, the State of Colorado Department of Corrections requested BLM assistance in a case that involved the introduction of contraband by private citizens to an inmate work program. With the assistance of technical investigative equipment, the BLM was able to provide the Department of Corrections with the proof that it needed to charge four individuals with Class 6 felonies.

In 2007, the Colorado—Eastern States program opened 103 criminal investigations. Of those investigations, only 24 cases have been closed, with the remaining investigations continuing into 2008.



IDAHO

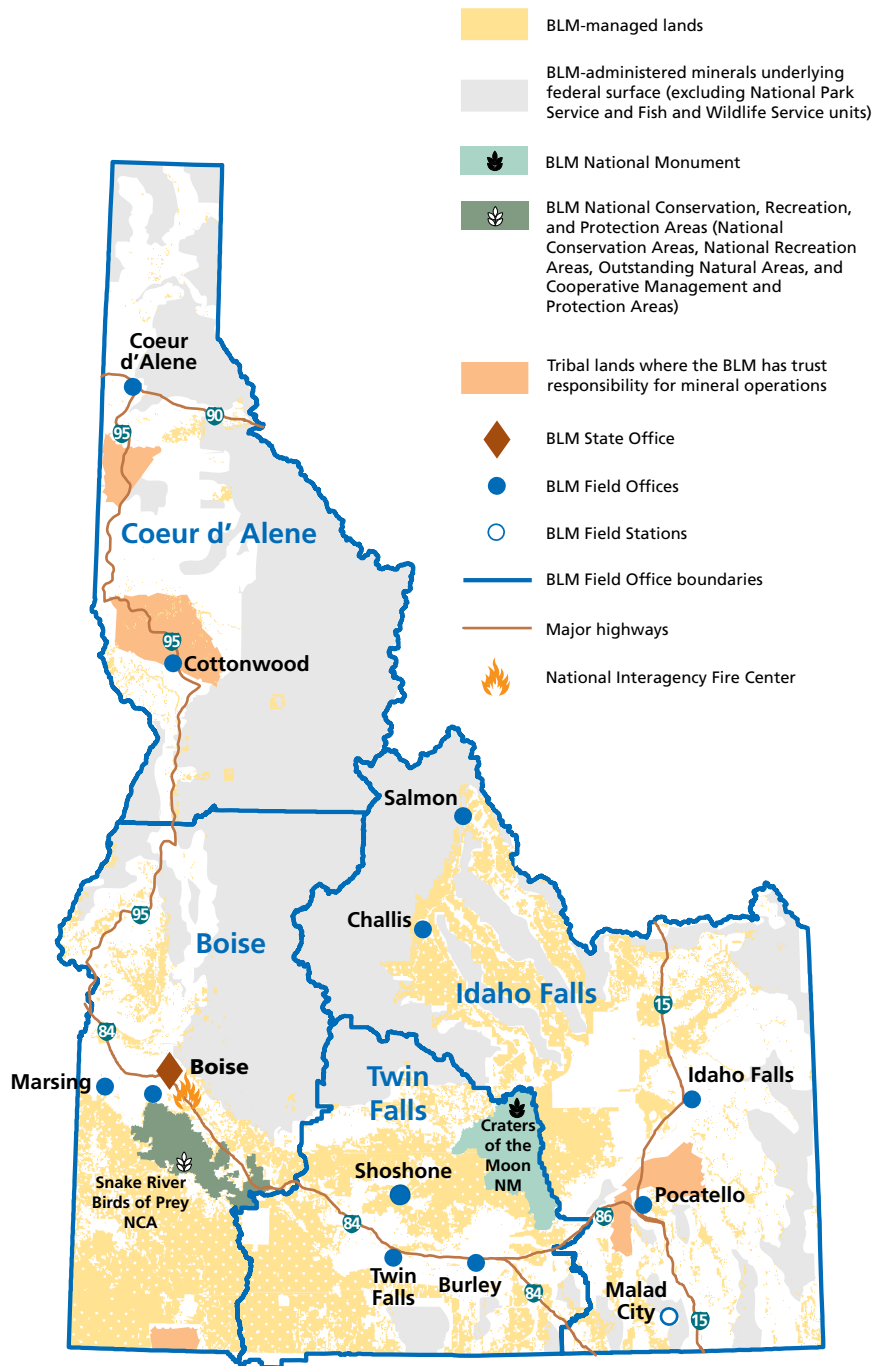
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IDAHO BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



The year 2007 was another busy and productive one for Idaho's law enforcement program and the approximately 12 million acres of public land it is responsible for safeguarding. The program ended the year with seven Rangers in the field and plans to add two more to be positioned in Salmon–Challis and Pocatello. The Mountain Home Resident Ranger position was filled with U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Law Enforcement Officer Moises Herrera. Herrera, who was already stationed in Mountain Home with USFS law enforcement, came to our program with more than 17 years of natural resource patrol experience.

Special Agent-in-Charge Loren Good saw some personnel changes at the State Office, as well. The program was proud to have its State Staff Ranger Jon Sering promoted to the Chief Ranger position for the BLM's Office of Law Enforcement and Security located at the National Interagency Fire Center. In July, Chief Ranger Sering was replaced with Ranger Keith McGrath from Colorado's San Juan Field Office, and he has brought a tremendous amount of field experience to the program.

In 2007, a second Special Agent position was selected for Idaho. Pocatello Field Office Ranger Kyle Gandiaga was promoted to Special Agent and graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in July. Special Agent Gandiaga is responsible for criminal fire investigations, with an emphasis on wildland arson. Special Agent Kent Kleman will continue to lead the marijuana cultivation investigations and coordination program. In the past year, Agent Kleman built working partnerships with the Idaho National Guard, Drug Enforcement Administration, USFS, Idaho State Police, and various Sheriff's Departments. Agents Kleman and Gandiaga have diverse caseloads that include Archaeological Resources Protection Act violations, hazmat-wire burning, and mineral theft, in addition to wildland fire and marijuana cultivation. To support the growing investigations program, Teresa Atkinson was selected as the new Law Enforcement Analyst. She will be assisting with casework management, as well as managing the daily office activities of the Idaho law enforcement program. Ms. Atkinson is working toward a degree in Homeland Security and plans to graduate in 2008.

Idaho's Rangers and Special Agents also assisted other State programs in 2007. Assistance was given to California during its high-use off-highway vehicle events, Oregon's high-desert marijuana eradication, Nevada's Burning Man Festival, and South Dakota's Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

In 2007, Idaho experienced its most active wildland fire season in the last 15 years. The Murphy Complex Fire, which was caused by lightning, burned more than 650,000 acres covering 1,000 square miles, making it the largest Idaho fire since 1910. As of late September, Idaho's public lands had already seen 117 human-caused fires, which burned more than 82,000 acres throughout Idaho. Since BLM Idaho already has a well-established fire trespass and investigation program, Idaho's Special Agents were able to concentrate on arson-related cases, which composed most of casework.

Special Agent Kleman led multiagency arson task forces in two separate serial arson wildfire cases. Several Federal and local officers participated in various aspects of these long-term cases. One of the investigations, which involved several arson fires over a 4-year period, was completed this year and referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office for prosecution. The U.S. Attorney's Office recently presented evidence to the Federal Grand Jury in the case and will seek an indictment in the future. The other task force case is still under investigation, with hundreds of work-hours devoted to the case so far.

Special Agent Gandiaga also supported the fire trespass and investigation program with several complex trespass investigations. Special Agent Gandiaga is leading several BLM Rangers and Special Agents in an investigation into another recent serial arson case on public lands. A suspect was identified, and the investigation is ongoing.

Because the Office of Law Enforcement and Security and the Idaho Leadership Team have committed to filling all law enforcement vacancies by the end of 2007, the Idaho law enforcement program should be able to protect Idaho's public lands more efficiently in 2008.



MONTANA

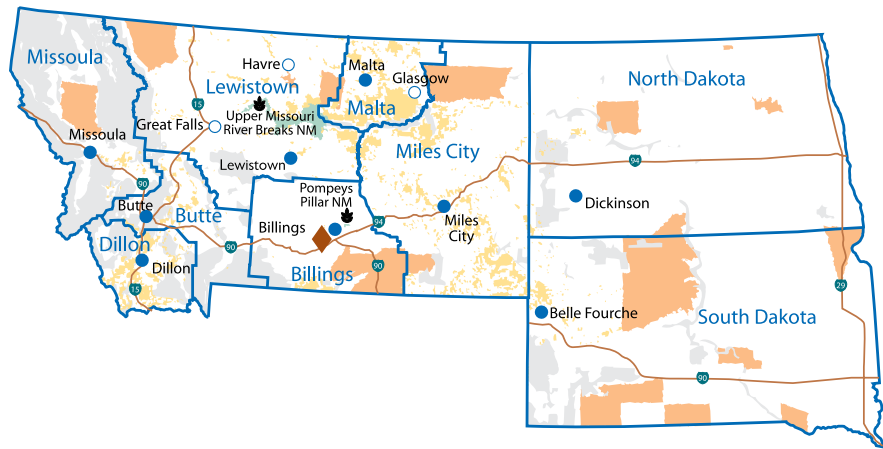
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- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
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- Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Stations
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways

MONTANA, NORTH DAKOTA, AND SOUTH DAKOTA BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administers about 8,000,000 surface acres in Montana and more than 300,000 surface acres in North Dakota and South Dakota. The diverse landscape of the area stretches from the Black Hills and prairies of North Dakota and South Dakota to beyond the Continental Divide and the Rocky Mountains of western Montana. In between are some spectacular and irreplaceable public lands.

The public lands in Montana and the Dakotas are as diverse in uses as they are in landscape. The southeastern part of Montana and the Dakotas is undergoing a marked increase in mineral extraction—with all the environmental concerns that includes. Grazing and other traditional uses of the public lands are still dominant in those areas.

Montana and the Dakotas also have many extremely popular recreation areas. Areas like the Madison and Blackfoot Rivers are very heavily used by the public throughout summer and attract many concerns for the Law Enforcement Rangers. Rangers issued more than 200 violation notices and made several arrests for resource violations, drug possession, underage drinking, driving under the influence of alcohol, and various other recreation-related crimes.

The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota again brought thousands of additional visitors to the Fort Meade Recreation Area, which lies immediately adjacent to Sturgis. BLM Rangers patrolled the historic Fort Meade Recreation Area to ensure public safety and prevent resource damage from the heavy influx of visitors. Violations increased markedly in 2007: nearly 200 violation notices were issued and several arrests were made by Rangers during rally week.

As the cities and towns of Montana continue to grow, the urban interface crimes continue to spill onto public lands. As is the trend throughout the BLM, criminals were encountered using public lands.

BLM Rangers and Agents apprehended and successfully prosecuted several felons in possession of firearms

last year, and had several incidents occur again in 2007. Three defendants (from separate incidents) are now serving a total of 100 months in Federal prison for being felons in possession of firearms on public land. Another defendant is serving 36 months probation with 8 months house arrest. Several other cases are still in the court system. These cases involve close coordination with local law enforcement, parole officers, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

Incidents of the theft and vandalism of archaeological and paleontological resources were ongoing this year, with several new sites being affected. The State Historical Societies in North Dakota and South Dakota reported numerous missing border markers that indicate the dividing line between each State. These border monuments are carved, quartzite rock about 8 feet long and 10 inches thick, placed by the General Land Office by order of Congress in the early 1890s. After a brief investigation, a dozen of these have been recovered and turned over to the historical societies in each State. Also, the BLM was successful in obtaining the return of several paleontological specimens that were illegally removed from public lands by a dinosaur digging tourism company.

The theft and vandalism of natural resources continue to plague public lands in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Rangers have been successful in prosecuting such cases, including the commercial theft of two trailer loads of rock from the Madison River—a blue ribbon trout fishery.

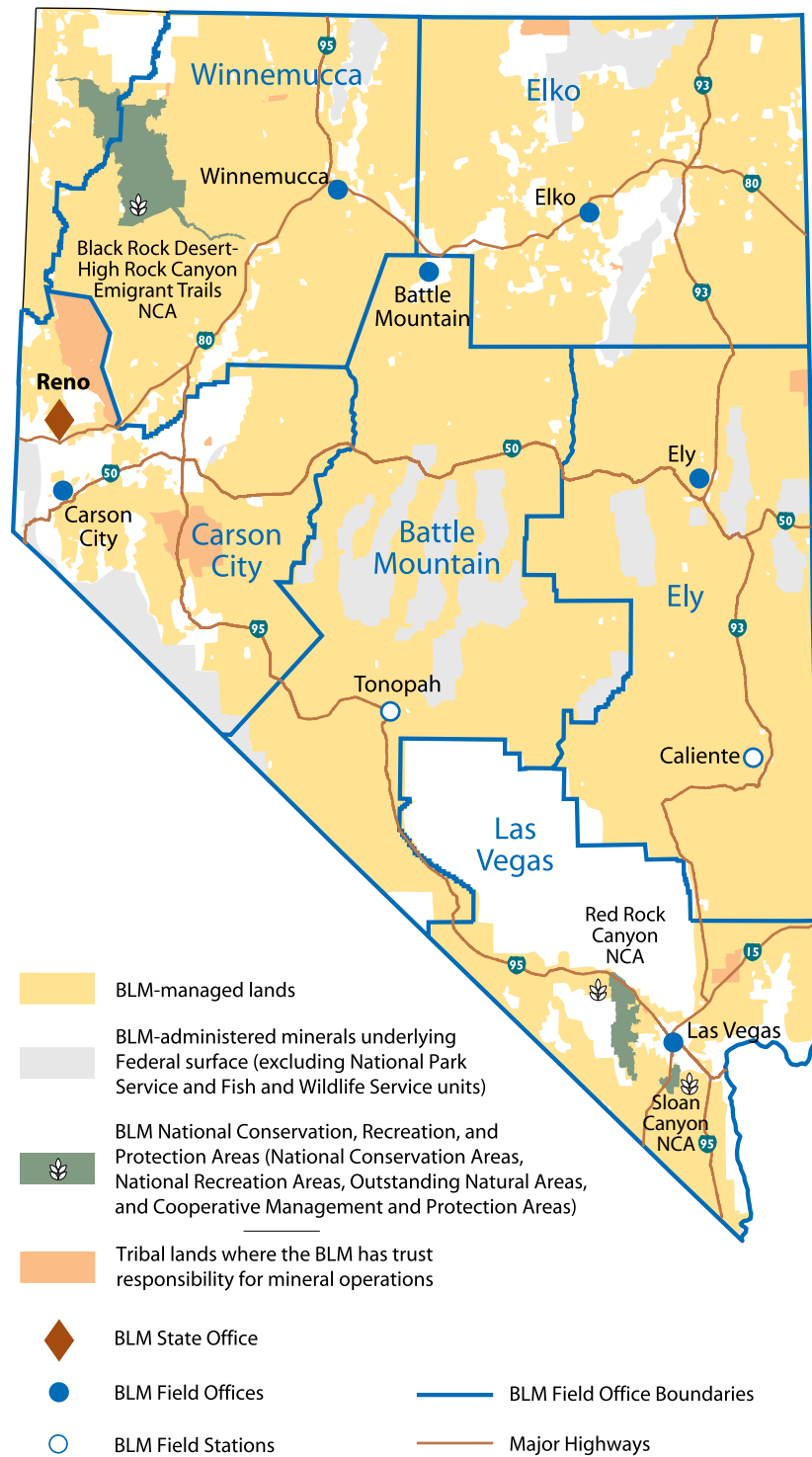
In cooperation with the Montana State Peace Officers Association and BLM Fire personnel, more than 100 new Wildfire Origin and Cause Determination (FI-210) investigators were trained in 2007. BLM Special Agents and Rangers investigated twelve, human-caused fires in 2007 as a part of the interagency fire organization. A new fire trespass policy was initiated in coordination with the U.S. Attorney and Solicitors Office that will speed the process for prosecuting and collecting on human-caused fires.



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NEVADA BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



In Nevada, about 48 million acres of public land are administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)—roughly 68% of the State. Resources are diverse and range from traditional uses, such as grazing and mining, to the recreational demands and societal problems that accompany rapid population growth.

In Fiscal Year 2007, the Nevada law enforcement program consisted of 29 Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs), 5 Special Agents, and 24 Law Enforcement Rangers. The Nevada law enforcement program entered into five law enforcement patrol agreements with County Sheriff's Offices, and two dispatch agreements.

The BLM in Nevada manages a major off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreational site at the Sand Mountain Recreational Area in northern Nevada. This area, located in Churchill County, is an example of the effects of growing OHV use. In the past 15 years, recreational use has tripled to more than 60,000 visitors each year. This year, the BLM law enforcement program assigned about 40 LEOs to work at the Sand Mountain Recreational Area (6 to 10 officers on each major holiday weekend). BLM LEOs documented 266 incidents, issued about 142 citations, and conducted 6 arrests.

The BLM manages one National Conservation Area (NCA) in northern Nevada—the Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA—within a 2-hour drive from Reno, which ranks in the top 20 cities in the Nation for growth. The Black Rock Desert NCA is host to the Burning Man Festival every year—the largest

permitted recreational event on BLM-managed lands. This year the event drew about 48,000 participants to the Black Rock Desert over 10 days. The BLM assigned 46 LEOs to work at the event, and the local Sheriff's Office provided 20 Deputies. During this year's event, BLM LEOs issued 331 citations and conducted 6 arrests.

The BLM manages two NCAs in southern Nevada—Sloan Canyon and Red Rock Canyon in southern Nevada (Las Vegas District)—which are adjacent to Las Vegas. For the past decade, Las Vegas has been the fastest growing city in the United States, and the two NCAs have about 1 million visitors a year.

Also in southern Nevada, the BLM, using funds generated through the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA), employs four Law Enforcement Rangers and one Law Enforcement Agent to work in a 25-officer, multiagency land management task force with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service. Through a memorandum of understanding, the four Federal land management agency task force officers target problem areas on all four jurisdictions. One of these areas for the BLM is the Sunrise Management Area, east of Las Vegas. The SNPLMA law enforcement task force conducted several multiagency operations throughout the year. This year, the Las Vegas District documented 1,806 incidents, issued about 500 citations, and conducted about 36 arrests.

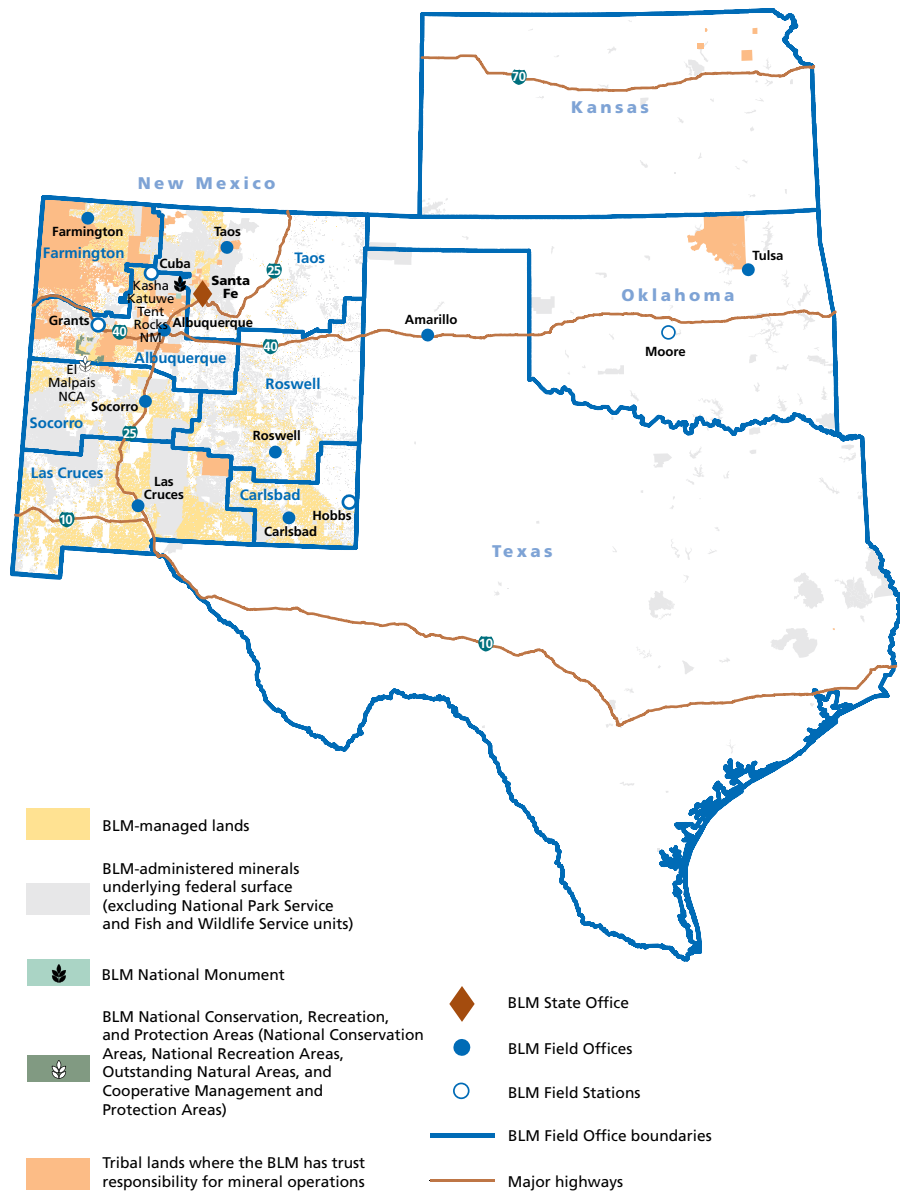
In 2007, BLM LEOs documented 2,735 incidents, issued about 1,000 citations, and conducted or assisted with about 50 felony arrests statewide.



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NEW MEXICO BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



The New Mexico State Office is responsible for public lands and mineral estate throughout New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas. The complex tasks of protecting the public, the employees, and the resources are handled by a tremendously talented group of men and women, comprising twelve Law Enforcement Rangers (patrolmen), six Special Agents (criminal investigators) and one Investigative Technician. These officers pursue a broad range of cases and contacts, from recreation-related offenses and incidents to felony investigations. Some highlights of our efforts in 2007 follow:

A Federal Grand Jury recently returned fifteen felony indictments against three persons, alleging trafficking of a unique collection of prehistoric artifacts originating from BLM-managed lands in the Farmington District of New Mexico. These indictments are the result of nearly 3 years of intensive investigation by Special Agent Noel Wagner.

The San Juan County Rural Crime Initiative is now operating in northwestern New Mexico and includes a Sheriff's Detective and BLM Special Agent Bruce Bigelow, collocated and working as partners on a wide variety of criminal investigations, with support from the rest of the Sheriff's Department and area BLM Rangers. The initiative is a joint undertaking of the Sheriff's Department, the BLM, and private industry. The majority of rural San Juan County is composed of public lands. A large amount of oil and gas development occurs on those lands, in addition to hunting and other recreational activities. Recent successes include several arrests for large-scale vandalism to oil and gas structures and equipment and arrests related to the theft of metals and unlawful hazardous materials disposal.

A large-scale investigation is under way by Special Agent Bart Russell regarding wild horses managed by the BLM. A number of these horses, sold by BLM to individuals or organizations, may have been subsequently sold for slaughter in Mexico by those who

originally purchased the animals from the BLM. With the recent closure of all commercial businesses within the United States where horses were slaughtered for human consumption, there has been an increase in exportation of both domestic horses and wild mustangs into Mexico for slaughter.

Illegal activities on the international border with Mexico continue to increase, as do effects on public lands resources near the border. As part of the BLM's commitment to international border enforcement issues, the Special Agent-in-Charge is a member of the Executive Board of the New Mexico High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) organization, made up of Federal, State, and local law enforcement organizations combating drug activities throughout New Mexico and along the border, and two New Mexico BLM Special Agents are collocated with interagency HIDTA Initiatives.

The BLM has recently formalized an intensive field training program for newly hired patrol officers. New Mexico is at the forefront of that effort, with Santa Fe Resident Ranger Steve Martin and Las Cruces District Ranger Tim Nicoulin as new Field Training Officers. These Officers have worked this year with a series of new Rangers from throughout the Bureau, sharing their intimate knowledge of resource law enforcement and the BLM.

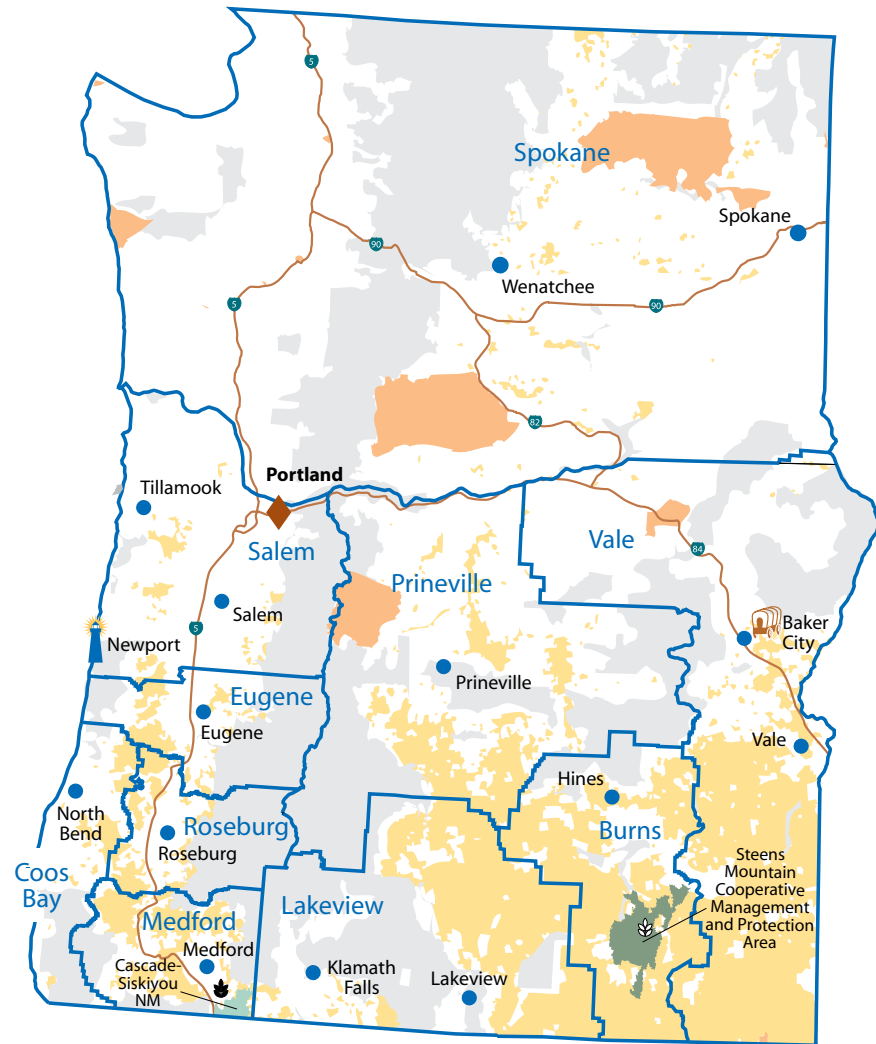
BLM Law Enforcement Rangers are stationed throughout New Mexico, and each patrols vast acreages of public lands. Typically, these Rangers work alone and handle a heavy call volume including natural and cultural resource crimes, theft cases, closed-area violations, fire incidents, wildlife offenses, illegal occupancy of public lands, visitor assistance, and an ever-growing load of urban interface-related crimes such as illegal dumping, gang activity, drug offenses, assaults, and homicides. Many years ago the Texas Rangers coined the phrase, "one riot—one Ranger," and BLM Rangers live that reality every day throughout the modern West.



OREGON

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- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- ✿ BLM National Monument
- ✿ BLM National Conservation Area and comparable designations
- Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Stations
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways
- National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
- ☀ Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area Interpretive Center

OREGON-WASHINGTON BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



In 2007, the Oregon–Washington law enforcement program completed another year of tasks associated with the unique management and administration of public lands. As always, the protection and safety of public land visitors, agency employees, structures, and infrastructure remains our highest priority. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages more than 221 sites, including offices, campgrounds, visitor centers, lighthouses, day-use areas, tree farms, and maintenance shops. This is a huge undertaking for the 21 Rangers and 5 Special Agents assigned to Oregon and Washington.

In tackling this investigative priority, our office participated in Operation Backfire. During 1995–2001, the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, other agencies, and private businesses saw their structures and property as targets of arson, destruction, and vandalism by subjects affiliated with the Earth Liberation Front (or American Liberation Front). In 2004, Operation Backfire was formed under the oversight of the U.S. Attorney's Office (District of Oregon). From 2004 through 2007, Oregon BLM Special Agent Lisa Lewman was assigned to the taskforce, working with the USFS, FBI, ATF, and other agencies. As a result of thousands of hours of work by the taskforce members, BLM Agents, Rangers, and employees, the persons responsible for these crimes were identified, captured, and prosecuted. In FY 2007, ten defendants were brought to justice and sentenced to a total of 72 years in prison, with combined fines and restitution totaling \$53.4 million dollars. The BLM will recover more than \$400,000 for the 1997 and 2001 arson fires at the Burns, Oregon, and Susanville, California, wild horse sites.

Over the past several years, one of the most visible threats to Oregon public land visitors, employees, and resources has been the cultivation of marijuana by armed suspects. In 2007, the Special Agent-in-Charge, working with the National Marijuana Initiative, Oregon High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, United States Attorney's Offices, Drug Enforcement

Administration, U.S. Forest Service, State Police, and Sheriff's Offices began an organized and coordinated effort to investigate and eliminate these illicit drug manufacturing sites from public land. As a result of such efforts, statewide totals in arrests, seizure of firearms, plants, indictments, and prosecutions have all increased.

Our second major investigative priority is the protection of cultural resources and Native American human remains. There are thousands of recorded and unrecorded cultural sites on the 16 million acres BLM manages in Oregon and Washington. In 2003, Special Agent Dennis Shrader received information concerning the organized theft and trafficking of Native American cultural resources and human remains from public land in central Oregon. As a result, Operation Bring 'Em Back was initiated as a long-term investigation focusing on the unlawful removal, theft, destruction, and trafficking of Native American human and cultural resources on public land. In FY 2007, this ongoing operation resulted in the prosecution of several defendants, who were sentenced to prison or probation, banished from all Federal lands, and ordered to pay restitution and forfeit artifacts.

One of the most prolific crimes committed on public land in Oregon–Washington involves illegal dumping. Dump sites pose a major threat to public land users and natural resources. Many times these sites may contain illicit drug lab waste; other hazardous materials such as pesticides and herbicides; dead animal carcasses; propane cylinders, gas tanks, oil drums, and other types of combustible and flammable materials; parts of and complete motor vehicles (some purposely set on fire in an attempt to cover up theft or ownership); tires of all sizes; and residential and commercial trash and rubbish. Unfortunately for these dumpers, our BLM Rangers take it as a personal investigative priority to find the responsible parties. Since 2000, BLM Rangers in Oregon have documented and investigated 2,810 cases of illegal dumping. This includes investigating 154 sites in FY 2007.

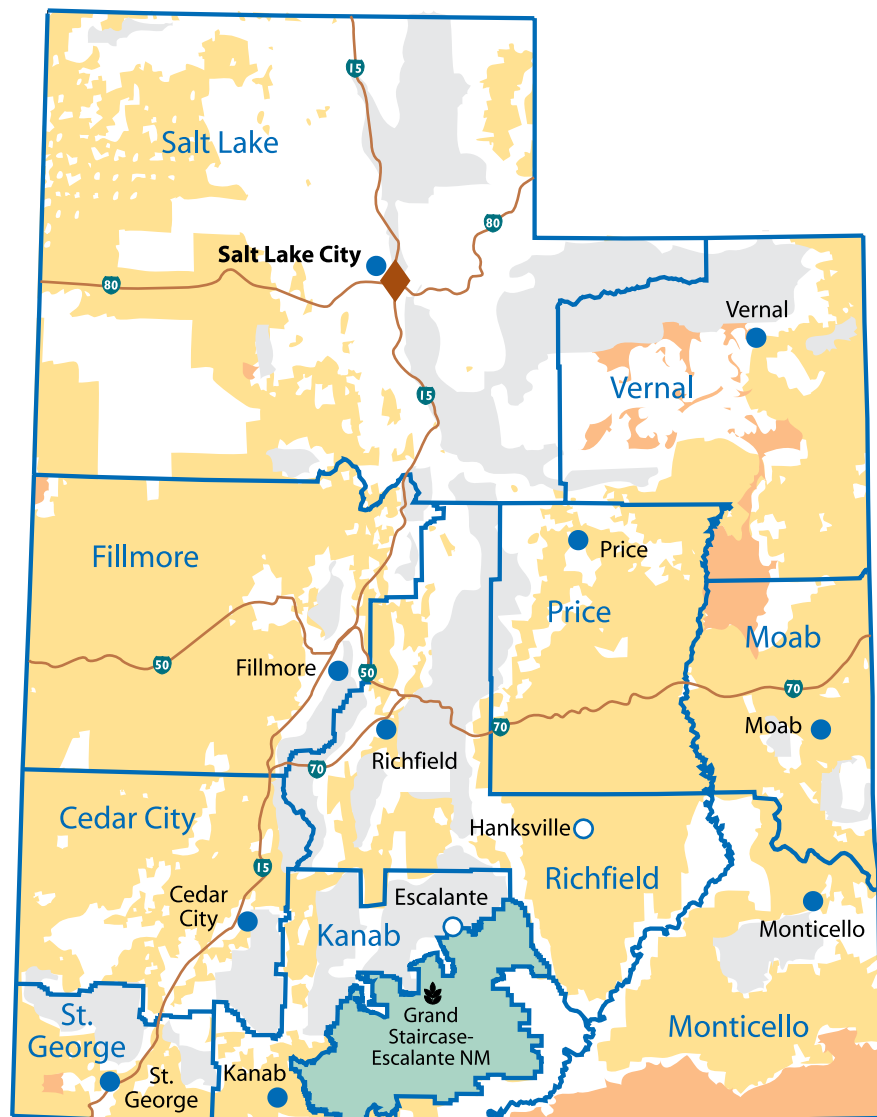











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|---|--|---|-----------------------------|
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|  | BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units) |  | BLM Field Offices |
|  | BLM National Monument |  | BLM Field Stations |
|  | Tribal lands where the BLM has trust responsibility for mineral operations |  | BLM Field Office Boundaries |
| | |  | Major Highways |

UTAH BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

In 2007, the Utah BLM law enforcement program was tasked with a variety of challenging law enforcement issues. These issues were associated with the management of more than 22 million acres of surface area and more than 33 million acres of subsurface acres of public land in Utah. The main investigations and activities pertaining to the Utah law enforcement program were related to recreational, paleontological, archaeological, and fire investigations. In addition, Utah experienced a significant increase in the demand for oil and gas services involving public lands, resulting in several investigations associated with the oil and gas program. As a result of the 2005 Energy Act, Utah has experienced a 250% increase in drilling applications.

An extraordinary amount of recreational opportunities are available to the public on lands administered by the BLM in Utah. The BLM law enforcement program was continually challenged with the management and safety of the public during annual events located in Moab, Little Sahara Recreational Area (LSRA), Coral Pink Sand Dunes, Monticello, and several unscheduled events throughout the State. Recreational sites in Utah are national and international focal points, and the industry continues to increase annually. Utah BLM ranks in the top three States in visitation (nearly 6 million visitors), fee collection, number of sites managed (400), and number of Special Recreation Permits issued. The LSRA has more than 400,000 visitors each year.

Utah has several significant and pristine archaeological sites throughout the State. These include the Anasazi complex at Grand Gulch, rock art at Nine Mile Canyon, Newspaper Rock, and the Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument. There are also many high-value Anasazi sites throughout the southeastern corner of the State. In the past year, Utah BLM Law Enforcement Officers have conducted several Archaeological Resource Protection Act investigations.

Fossil theft investigations continue to be a high priority. The fossils contained on land administered by the BLM include the Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry and the Morrison Formation. These areas contain significant numbers of high-value dinosaur fossils, and nearly all the known Allosaurus specimens in the world were obtained from the Morrison Formation in central Utah. Utah BLM Special Agents have conducted Allosaurus fossil investigations that involve international consignees, with Allosaurus specimens presently being sold for more than \$500,000 on the black market—one of the reasons that fossil theft is attracting national and international attention. In February 2007, a suspect pleaded guilty in Utah State Court for felony theft of government property. The case involved theft of an Allosaurus from lands administered by the BLM in southern Utah. The Allosaurus was originally sold to a purchaser in the Netherlands, and the fossil was resold to a buyer in South Korea.

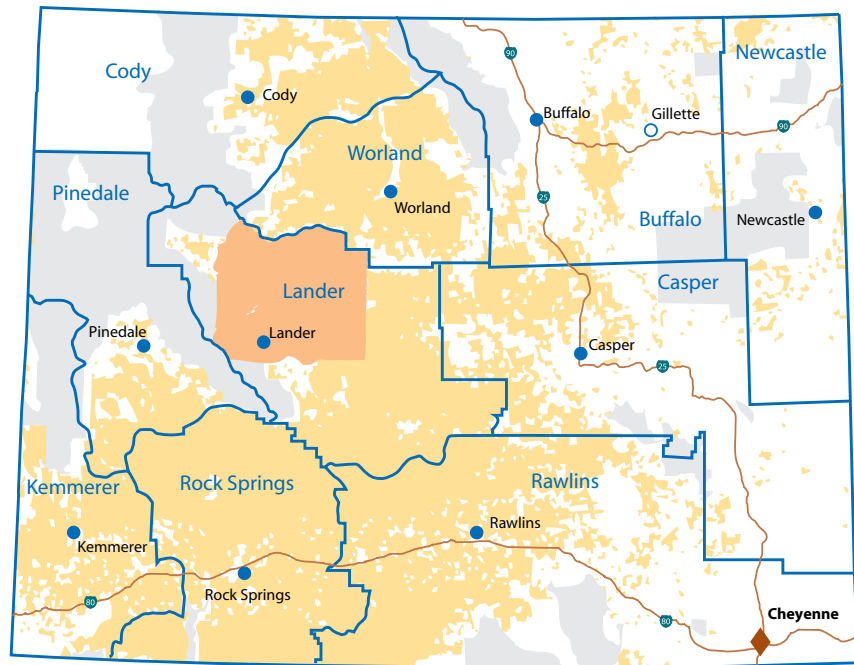
The Utah BLM law enforcement program continues to be closely associated with the Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ACE) program at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Salt Lake City. In 2007, the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Utah, reached a settlement of \$6.5 million for a wildfire started on lands administered by the BLM, which scorched more than 14,000 acres in the Uintah Mountains. Utah BLM Special Agents also conducted a significant wildfire investigation that was prosecuted in the Fifth District Juvenile Court in Washington County. The wildfire burned more than 50,000 acres and fire suppression costs exceeded \$1.5 million. In all, nine juveniles pleaded guilty to causing the wildfire and were sentenced to 30 days detention, \$500 restitution, completing a 500-word essay, and 275 hours of community service. BLM is seeking fire suppression costs through the ACE program.



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- Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways

WYOMING BLM LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Wyoming manages 18.4 million acres of surface area and 41.6 million acres of subsurface minerals, or about two-thirds of the State. Most of the law enforcement issues in Wyoming are affiliated with five major areas: paleontological cases, wild horse investigations, archaeological resources, minerals, and issues surrounding off-highway vehicles.

Wyoming has more than 3,800 wild horses in 16 Herd Management Areas. Law enforcement officials have investigated a range of issues, from horses that were shot and killed to adoption violations. Convictions were awarded this year for an incident that occurred in spring 2005, within the BLM Salt Wells Wild Horse Management Area south of Rock Springs. This case involved four men who attempted to rope and castrate a wild horse using a knife, directly resulting in the horse's death. The case was investigated by BLM Special Agent Frederick Hurlock and Rock Springs Ranger Christopher Locker with the assistance of the Sweetwater County Sheriff's Office, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and the Wyoming Livestock Board. The case concluded with the conviction of two Wyoming men and two Utah men for their involvement in the killing of a wild horse. This case is the first prosecution related to the unlawful killing of wild horses under a Wyoming State law, which was passed in 2002 as a result of the shooting deaths of 37 BLM wild horses in Sweetwater County in 2001.

Wyoming minerals are vitally important to the national interest. This year, two mineral theft investigations conducted by BLM Special Agent Gregory Courter resulted in \$5,000 administrative restitution to the BLM. Wyoming is also first nationally in coal and bentonite mining, second in natural gas, and seventh in crude oil production, with royalty sales for all mineral disbursements totaling \$2.21 billion in 2006. In recent years, several investigations have been initiated involving the investigation of the theft or fraudulent

use of these resources, including a large investigation involving a mineral issue initiated in the Vernal, Utah, area, in which multiple Wyoming Special Agents, including Special Agent-In-Charge Michael Miller, are assisting. This year, Special Agent Gregory Courter from Wyoming was an invited speaker at the Rocky Mountain Energy Security Council for his expertise regarding oilfield crime issues and some recent cases he conducted. Agent Courter also finished a case involving the theft of 11,000 cubic yards of sand and rock, resulting in \$17,052 in restitution to the BLM.

BLM lands in Wyoming provide recreational opportunities for the region and the Nation, with more than 2.3 million visitor use days—4.6 times the entire population of the State. Off-highway vehicle violations are one of the biggest recreation issues. Wyoming also has the most miles of undisturbed emigration trails of any State. Four National Historic Trails have more than 60% of their mileage in the State under BLM stewardship. Wyoming contains the best intact trail remains in the country, including emigrant etchings, American Indian petroglyphs, and original wagon ruts. Vandalism of the trails and sites is a large problem.

A concentrated effort was expended this year by Wyoming Special Agents Frederick Hurlock and Gregory Courter to assist other States with their enforcement of outdoor marijuana cultivation investigations on the newly created national Marijuana Investigation Support Team. In June and July 2007, both agents assisted in multiple operations by conducting surveillance of drug trafficking organization routes leading to cultivated marijuana gardens on public lands administered by the BLM in California. Agents assisted in the tactical takedown of the marijuana gardens, arrest of suspects, seizure of evidence, and eradication of more than 3,000 marijuana plants. Defendants in these cases will face Federal and State charges relating to Conspiracy to Manufacture Marijuana, Possession of Marijuana, and Marijuana Cultivation.



MAJOR ISSUES OF NATIONAL INTEREST



MARIJUANA

Marijuana cultivation on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has risen dramatically in the past 4 years. In Calendar Year (CY) 2004, about 220,000 marijuana plants were seized on public lands. In CY '05, about 391,000 plants were seized; in CY '06, about 368,000 plants were seized; and in 2007, more than 450,000 plants were seized.

Historically, marijuana has been cultivated on public lands by local residents, mainly in Oregon, Washington, and California. This paradigm saw a dramatic shift in 2004. The cultivation of marijuana on public lands has been taken over by Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs). These DTOs smuggle illegal aliens across the international border with Mexico and transport them to locations mainly in California, Oregon, and Washington, leaving these "workers" in marijuana gardens armed with rifles and specific instructions to guard the gardens at all costs. Garden "bosses" routinely resupply the workers with food and other essentials, and workers are not allowed to leave under any circumstances until the garden is harvested. The DTOs prefer public-administered lands, including those of the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, because they know they are not frequently visited and public lands do not pose the threat of tracing ownership identity as does privately owned land.

DTOs have begun to spread eastward to Idaho, Arizona, Utah, and as far east as Tennessee. In many States there are documented instances of public land users being threatened and shot at because they came too close to the growing marijuana

gardens. There are documented cases of marijuana gardens that contain as many as 17,000 plants in one location; other gardens are planted and cultivated extremely close to residential areas bordering public lands. These DTO cultivation activities present a very clear and immediate danger to public land agency employees and users of public lands. Every acre that is used by these organizations is an acre that cannot be managed effectively by the responsible agency.

Chemicals used as pesticides and fertilizer pose another serious threat to the ecological balance of the public lands that is very expensive to remediate. Conservative estimates from the National Park Service report a cost of \$10,000 per acre to restore these areas and haul away trash and chemicals left behind from a marijuana garden.

The BLM is actively engaged with Department of the Interior and U.S. Forest Service partners to identify and eradicate marijuana cultivation operations. The BLM also works with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, which funds a small portion of the BLM's efforts and works with local Sheriff's Offices on funding and personnel in a joint effort to eradicate marijuana on public lands. The Drug Enforcement Administration and State Police agencies are an important part of our efforts, and the BLM coordinates with these agencies at a national and local level in the investigation of DTOs. This year we formed and trained a Marijuana Investigative Support Team to enhance our efforts to identify and investigate marijuana cultivators. A description of this team and its activities is given in the Deputy Director's message and the California State information.



OIL AND GAS

With increases in energy development in the Rocky Mountain States, law enforcement personnel have encountered a significant increase in crimes that relate to that development. Some of this is directly related to high gas and oil prices, with theft of the oil and gas resource or attempts to tamper with well meters. In addition to the theft of oil field equipment and fluid minerals (particularly condensate), we are seeing a sharp increase in the theft of metals, such as copper, and in the creation of hazardous waste sites on public lands by thieves who burn insulation off copper wire in preparation for selling it to metal scrap dealers. This problem is not localized to a single area, but is occurring in almost every State with BLM-administered lands.

This year, the BLM in New Mexico saw the San Juan County Rural Crime Initiative come to fruition. Rural San Juan County is largely made up of BLM lands and is one of the largest active gas and oil development areas in the lower 48 United States. This Initiative is jointly funded by the Sheriff's Department, the BLM Office of Law Enforcement and Security, and oil and gas industry interests. Initial successes include several arrests and prosecutions for vandalism and theft involving oil and gas production sites throughout the San Juan Basin, with many additional investigations under way. Several arrests have also been made for metal thefts, and metal scrap dealers are being held responsible for a little-known New Mexico State law that requires them to keep records of individuals who sell scrap metal to them and to provide these records to law enforcement upon demand.

BLM Rangers and Agents join forces periodically with Petroleum Engineering Technicians, State Game and Fish Officers, and other State and local Law Enforcement and Compliance Officers to stop and inspect oil field vehicles capable of hauling fluid minerals from public lands and Indian leases throughout the San Juan Basin, the Permian Basin, and the Oklahoma and Kansas oil fields. These sweeps have resulted in the issuance of criminal violation notices and many Notices of Noncompliance. The BLM is also investigating allegations of illegal removal and hauling of fluid minerals and the illicit sale of these minerals through unscrupulous waste oil recyclers.

There are several themes for Fluid Mineral Inspection and Enforcement issues in Wyoming. The first and most difficult to investigate involve oil and gas measurement and reporting. Other areas of concern involve activities such as unauthorized transportation and dumping of drilling fluids, hazardous chemicals, produced water, slope or waste oil, and saleable oils, in addition to the abandonment or improper sealing of wells without approval. Abandoned wells

are a liability to the Federal government, with huge clean-up and reclamation costs, since they are often plugged irresponsibly in a way that causes damage to such natural resources as freshwater aquifers.

In many States, BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agents also join forces annually to conduct inspections of oil and gas production sites for tank netting requirements intended to protect migratory bird species. These sweeps have resulted in criminal, civil, and administrative actions.

In Colorado and Wyoming, multiple Counties are affected by the energy development boom. Sheriffs are reporting 100% increases in traffic accidents, vandalism, theft, and drug (methamphetamine)-related and alcohol-related incidents resulting from an increase of workers in oil field production. These numbers seem to increase annually. This year, a new Ranger position was added to the Pinedale (Wyoming) area specifically to increase patrols of BLM lands near the 30,000 acres of the Jonah Natural Gas Fields. The area has one of the richest concentrations of natural gas in the United States, presently estimated at more than 14 trillion cubic feet. Population growth in the Pinedale area has skyrocketed in recent years with the energy development boom, bringing to this area the same urban interface problems noted in many other States.

There is also an ongoing effort by Petroleum Engineering Technicians to perform inspections of oil production sites, which include determining if there is any indication of tampering with equalizer valves. This push was initiated by an ongoing investigation near Vernal, Utah, involving the deliberate tampering of equalizer valves.

INTERNATIONAL BORDERS

BLM law enforcement personnel continue to work with partner agencies to address a multitude of issues arising along the U.S. borders with both the Republic of Mexico and with Canada. These include human trafficking, drug smuggling, theft of resources, and resource damage, particularly along the southwestern border. Violence committed by those involved with all kinds of smuggling has also increased.

Montana, Idaho, and Washington share a common border with the Canadian Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. The BLM manages about 80 miles of rural lands adjacent to the northern border. A few Rangers and Agents are assigned to patrol and coordinate with other border agencies, including the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency's Border Patrol and the U.S. Forest Service. BLM officers are very active in their Integrated Border Enforcement Teams. These groups work extensively with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Canadian Border Service agencies. Although illegal activity on the northern border pales in comparison to that on the southwestern border, intelligence information from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and, more recently, the Government Accountability Office, suggests that the northern border continues to pose a significant security threat because of the vast, remote areas it adjoins. Incidences of drug and human smuggling,



especially west of the Rocky Mountains, continue to occur along the northern border.

The southwestern borderlands are most often defined as those lands about 100 miles north of the border of Mexico. For the BLM, this consists of about 155 miles of land at the border and 3.7 million acres in Arizona, 1.8 million acres in New Mexico, and 3.3 million acres in California. These lands are continually subjected to border zone effects and illegal activities. Human and drug smuggling activities on these public lands have created a hazardous environment for public use and recreation, endangered BLM employees, and caused degradation and destruction of natural resources. Drug smuggling, particularly of processed marijuana, continues to increase. According to statistics from the El Paso Intelligence Center, 111,467 pounds of marijuana were seized by Federal, State, or local agencies on BLM lands from January through September 2007. During this same period, 49,588 undocumented immigrants were apprehended.

BLM law enforcement personnel are committed to assisting agencies from the DHS, as well as other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, in dealing with the human and drug smuggling in the borderland areas. It is in the interest of BLM law enforcement to cooperate in responding to these issues, to better protect our employees, visitors, and natural resources on public lands. Law enforcement agreements with County Sheriff's Offices have been implemented. The BLM and other DOI and Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers are cross-delegated to better assist each other while conducting saturation patrols or drug interdiction operations. The BLM also continues to improve its relations with the Border Patrol in both the resource management and law enforcement arenas. Success with enhanced radio communication is ongoing; BLM Law Enforcement Officers in the field can talk directly to their counterparts from Border Patrol. This capability is critical with the ever-increasing violence in the borderland areas.





OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

Increases in population throughout the West continue to bring more and more visitors to the public lands managed by the BLM. This increase in usage by visitors who may not be familiar with BLM management has led to an increase in off-highway vehicle (OHV) violations, as well as resource damage with user-created routes and vandalism to some historic trails.

High-use recreation areas in each State also continue to be a law enforcement challenge, especially on long holiday weekends and during major events. The management of OHVs in sand dune areas is a primary focus of Law Enforcement Rangers. From the Imperial Sand Dunes and Dumont Dunes of southern California to the ever-popular Sand Mountain in Fallon, Nevada; from the Little Sahara Recreation Area and Coral Pink Sand

Dunes in Utah to the St. Anthony Sand Dunes northwest of Idaho Falls, Idaho; and from the North Sand Hills of northern Colorado to the Juniper Dunes of Oregon; the BLM works closely with local law enforcement agencies on patrols, safety, and enforcement, making these areas and events much easier to control. The use of short-term work details throughout the Bureau, as well as continued support from local law enforcement agencies through assistance agreements, has proven invaluable.

The dramatically increased volume of OHV use, combined with attempts by the BLM to regulate use through OHV designations, continues to remain a high priority among the majority of BLM Rangers. Nationwide, 25% of all BLM violations are OHV-oriented. Areas such as the Moab Field Office enforce more than 65% of all BLM misdemeanor violations in the State of Utah. Although BLM Rangers often enforce registration and safety violations (no flags in sand dunes, helmets where required, and other regulations), a large number of violations involve individuals riding cross-country, off designated routes, or riding in closed areas and causing environmental damage.

In some instances, local organized OHV groups have stepped forward to assist in

the education of OHV users in promoting responsible recreation use. Many BLM offices are presently updating Resource Management Plans (RMP), which include OHV designations and use recommendations from Rangers. The Grand Junction, Colorado, Office has tried a "zoning" concept in Special Recreation Management Areas to reduce conflicts between mountain bikers and motorized recreation users.

Issues associated with OHVs are of long-term concern and will dominate much of the BLM law enforcement program for years to come.

WILD HORSES AND BURROS

On December 15, 1971, the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act was signed into law. The Congress of the United States declared wild, free-roaming horses and burros living symbols of the historical, pioneer spirit of the West; they contribute to the diversity of life forms within the Nation and enrich the lives of the American people. Through the Act, the policy of Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to protect wild horses and burros from capture, branding, harassment, or death; to accomplish this, these animals were to



be considered an integral part of the natural system of the public lands.

The Secretary, through the BLM, has been successful in meeting the mandates of Congress in the management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros. Additionally, the BLM has worked with many advisory groups, volunteers, and professionals in making available excess wild horses and burros to be humanely captured and removed for private maintenance and care by those interested in having their own part of this American legacy.

There have been many revisions to the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act, including the 2005 authorization from Congress to allow the Secretary to sell wild horses and burros that were not acquired through the adoption process. In response to concerns about the possibility of these animals going to slaughter, however, attempts are being made to halt the sale authority of these unwanted animals.

The BLM adopts several thousand wild, free-roaming horses and burros annually, with many finding homes in the eastern United States. Since 2000, the BLM has adopted more than 38,000 animals. Some of the many investigations conducted by the BLM include the inhumane treatment and abandonment of wild horses and burros that the public has acquired through the adoption program. Inhumane treatment is identified as any intentional or negligent action or failure to act that causes stress, injury, or undue suffering to a wild horse or burro and is not compatible with animal husbandry practices accepted in the veterinary community.

Other violations investigated are by law enforcement personnel include:

- Willfully removing a wild, free-roaming horse or burro from the public lands without authorization.
- Maliciously causing the death or harassment of any wild, free-roaming horse or burro.
- Processing, or permitting to be processed,

the remains of a wild, free-roaming horse or burro into commercial products.

- Selling, directly or indirectly, a wild, free-roaming horse or burro without official title.
- Willful violation of the elements of the adoption Private Maintenance and Care Agreement.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The public lands entrusted to the BLM hold some of the most significant evidence of human prehistory and history in the West and Alaska. The BLM's Law Enforcement Officers have a unique responsibility in trying to protect and maintain the integrity of these long-abandoned archaeological sites and historical landscapes. In 2006, the BLM experienced an increase in looting, destruction, and trafficking in artifacts throughout the country. Fortunately, the BLM has two different Federal laws to use in combating suspects engaged in destructive and trafficking activities. Most prominent is the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470). Anyone convicted of this Federal statute may be fined as much as \$10,000.00 and placed into custody for 1 year. Under the Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 U.S.C. 433), anyone convicted under this Federal statute may be fined \$500 and imprisoned for as long as 90 days. In 2006, the BLM celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the Antiquities Act.

The BLM Office of Law Enforcement (OLES) Director considers archaeological protection one of his main priorities and understands the importance these sites have in the scientific community. Historical sites and landscapes provide invaluable insights into the ways human activities and the environment are linked together through time—how seemingly minor cultural practices can contribute to substantial environmental change. Discovering, studying, and understanding the evidence of past human influences on the land can give the BLM, professional researchers, and the public not only critically important



insights into the past, but guidelines for appropriately managing and protecting these sites today and in the future.

Along with the archaeological law enforcement effort, OLES is also heavily involved with the protection of fossils on lands administered by the BLM. Paleontological resources constitute a fragile and nonrenewable scientific record of the history of life on earth. Once damaged, destroyed, or improperly collected, their scientific and educational value may be greatly reduced or lost forever. In addition to scientific, educational, and recreational values, paleontological resources can be used to inform land managers about interrelations between the biological and geological components of ecosystems over significant periods. More varieties of fossils can be found on the lands administered by the BLM than on lands of any other Federal or State agency. Fossils are the remains and traces of once-living organisms, preserved in rocks of the Earth's crust. They convey the story of origins and endings of extraordinary varieties of ocean-dwelling, freshwater, and terrestrial creatures, played out over nearly 4 billion years of Earth's history.

Because of the remote areas that paleontological resources are often located in, fossils have been a target for thieves and looters. The plundering and destruction of cultural and paleontological treasures has become a highly lucrative business involving a network of looters, expert dealers in stolen property, and opportunistic buyers in the United States and throughout the world. In

the past, the BLM has been able to prosecute illegal collectors and traffickers under 18 U.S.C. 641, theft of government property. In 2006, BLM law enforcement personnel were involved in drafting the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, similar to the ARPA statute of 1979, which will provide the BLM with a new and unique means for deterring and detecting individuals engaged in the illegal trafficking of priceless fossils obtained from public lands. The bill was reintroduced to the Senate in October 2007, and OLES is hopeful the bill will be passed.

TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS

The theft of timber on public land continues to occur nationwide because of the high monetary value of timber. Timber is stolen for both the production of lumber products and for firewood. The theft of other forest products (salal, juniper boughs, moss, and other tree and plant species) has steadily increased across the West and remains an ongoing criminal violation on public land. The theft is due, in part, to the extensive commercialization, demand, and needs associated with the floral industry.

When suspects illegally take timber and other forest products, they can also cause the destruction of other natural features and of Native American cultural resources. Since 2000, the BLM in Oregon and Washington States has investigated 1,179 incidents of timber, firewood, and forest product thefts.



HOW TO APPLY FOR JOBS WITH THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT

Vacancies for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) law enforcement positions can be found at www.usajobs.opm.gov. There are several ways to search for jobs on this Web site. The most common methods are to search by job series or agency. Ranger positions are

in occupational series 1801 and Special Agent positions are in series 1811. Go to <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/a9blm.asp> to search for employment opportunities at the BLM. You may also visit http://www.blm.gov/wol/st/en/res/blm_jobs.3.html

for information on careers with the BLM. Law enforcement Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) vacancies are filled at the Field Office or State Office levels through outreach efforts at colleges, universities, organizations, or BLM events.





If you're someone who wants to pursue a career in law enforcement in an outdoor setting, then the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ranger job may be for you. Rangers take pride in tackling some of the toughest and most unique challenges that Federal law enforcement has to offer.

The BLM is the place for those who have a passion for conservation and protection of resources and love the outdoors. After all, that's where BLM Rangers spend most of their time. If you've ever dreamed about having an office that encompasses several million acres of public lands, this job is for you.



For the few who can meet the challenge, there's no better job.

Entry level trainee Ranger positions start at the GS-5 level, with full performance at GS-9. Previous law enforcement experience may qualify an applicant for entry at the GS-9 or even the GS-11 level. Promotion potential exists up to the GS-13 grade level for Rangers. Those showing an interest and aptitude for criminal investigations can also apply for BLM Special Agent positions. BLM Rangers and Special Agents are primarily located in the eleven western States, with most entry level positions located in the southern desert areas.

BLM Ranger positions are covered by special law enforcement retirement provisions. In addition, you'll receive duty time for physical fitness training, a uniform allowance, and an excellent Federal Government benefits package, including life insurance, health insurance, retirement benefits, and a savings plan.

Not everyone wants a career as physically and mentally challenging as the one offered by the BLM. However, if you're looking for the kind of law enforcement opportunity that only the BLM can provide, we welcome your application. To apply, look for BLM Law Enforcement jobs on the Web at www.usajobs.gov, contact your nearest BLM Office and ask to speak with a Law Enforcement Ranger, or visit www.blm.gov.

The BLM is an equal opportunity employer.

BLM/WO/GI-07/017+1800



BLM Law Enforcement Protecting Public Land Resources





A big job that utilizes all your talents.

The BLM, part of the Department of the Interior, is the largest landowner in the United States. The BLM administers nearly 260 million surface and 500 million subsurface acres of public lands. Approximately 250 Ranger and Special Agents enforce the laws on a wide variety of environments, from desert sand dunes to Alaskan tundra. Some of the resource enforcement issues include:

- ◆ Cultural and paleontological resource theft and vandalism
- ◆ Mineral resource theft
- ◆ Hazardous materials dumping
- ◆ Cultivation, manufacture, and use of illicit drugs
- ◆ Alcohol-related offenses in a recreation setting
- ◆ Off-highway vehicle use
- ◆ Timber, native plant, and forest product theft
- ◆ Wilderness management
- ◆ Wild Horse and Burro adoption and compliance

Rangers regularly patrol their areas by means of four-wheel drive vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles,



sand rails, aircraft, snowmobiles, jet skis, boats, horses, and even the oldest patrol method—on foot.

The job of a Ranger varies considerably depending on location. In the southwestern desert areas, Rangers spend a great deal of time dealing with large numbers of recreational users and off-highway vehicle issues, as well as a variety of resource theft and vandalism incidents. Rangers along the southern border may encounter illegal aliens and smuggling, while their counterparts in Alaska travel long distances by aircraft and snow machine to patrol remote areas of public lands. Rangers in urban interface areas may encounter crimes related to alcohol, hazardous materials and other dumping, wildland fire and arson, and many other trespass concerns. Rangers in the northern States are involved with wildland fire investigations, wild horse violations, and illegal commercial guides and outfitters. In all areas, Rangers work in cooperation with local Sheriff's Offices, State agencies, and other Federal law enforcement agencies.

Do you have what it takes?

Applying for a career as a Ranger is easy, although the qualifications for entry into the BLM Law Enforcement Program are quite rigorous. You must be able to meet all of the following:

- ◆ Be a U.S. citizen
- ◆ Pass an extensive background investigation, drug test, physical fitness test, and medical exam
- ◆ Hold a valid driver's license
- ◆ Not have reached your 37th birthday at the time of your appointment or, if older than 37, have prior experience in a qualifying Federal law enforcement position

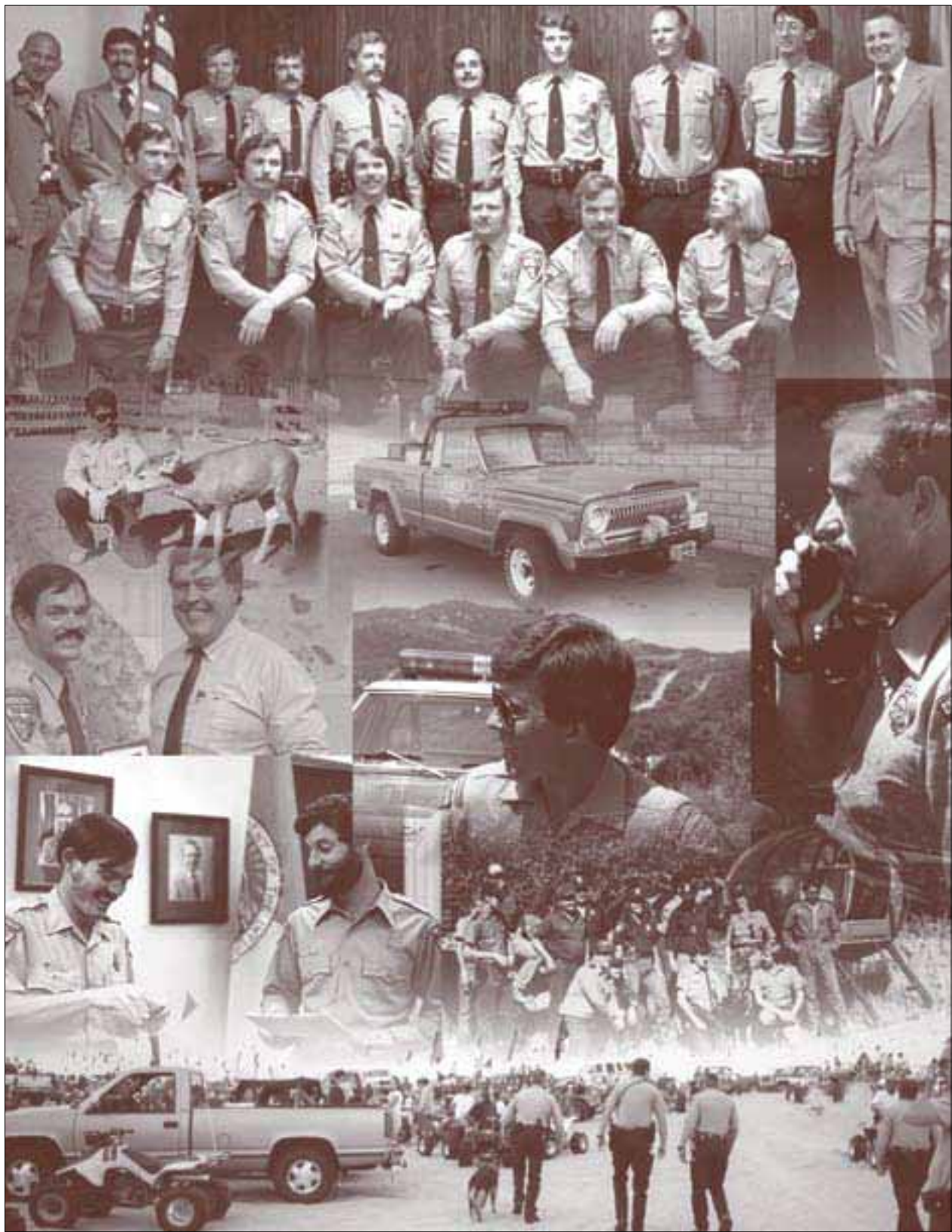


Training that puts your skills to the test.

Selectees must then successfully complete the 18-week Land Management Police Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). Areas of instruction include constitutional and criminal law, statutory authority, behavioral sciences, defensive tactics and physical fitness, arrest and investigative techniques, defensive driving, and firearms. Successful completion of all coursework is required for graduation.

Training doesn't stop for Rangers after attending the FLETC. You will then complete a Field Training and Evaluation Program, to learn the job in several duty locations across the western States. Annual and quarterly training is required for firearms, defensive tactics, physical fitness, and other job skills. Advanced training in a variety of program areas is available.





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